

BLACK DIAMOND
WESTERN

AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS
to the
COMICS
CODE

BLACK DIAMOND



10¢

ID PDC

WESTERN

JAN.
NO. 42

3

FEATURE-LENGTH
BLACK DIAMOND
ILLUSTORIES

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

HA! HA!
THEES IZ ZEE
END OF ZEE
GREAT BLACK
DIAMOND, EH,
AMIGOS?

HO! HO!
HE! HE!
HO! HO!

WHA...WHAT IZ
ZEEZ? A HORSE
CHARGES LIKE
ZEE B..BULL!

IF BLACK
DIAMOND CAN
HOLD ON JUST
A MINUTE LONGER!
JUST LONG
ENOUGH FOR
ME TO...





WEB COMIC
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ELECTRONIC WALKIE TALKIES

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC CHASSIS,
U. S. GOVERNMENT PATENT NO. 2,536,179



TWO-WAY COMMUNICATIONS: Set consists of TWO (2) "Transceivers" ready to hook up between any two points. No license needed! Powered by new patented Remco electro-magnetic chassis. Practical, foolproof operation is guaranteed.

BROADCAST OVER HOME RADIO: Either or both of your Walkie Talkies can be hooked up so you can talk into them and hear your voice come out of the radio speaker. "Broadcast" from another room or another part of the house. Mystify your friends—plan your own radio programs and announcements.

RECEIVE LOCAL BROADCAST STATIONS: Your Walkie Talkie can easily be converted to the broadcast



RADIO RECEIVER AND INTERPHONE



band and thus serve as your own private radio receiver. The REMCO plug-in crystal adapter and special aerial attachment will permit reception on broadcast frequencies. Adapter, aerial attachment only \$1.98 (Optional). Sets are ruggedly constructed of high quality injection molded plastic: engineered for utility and extra long service. This is not a kit but a factory tested and guaranteed communication system. Guaranteed — or your money refunded in full.

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100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED! We will refund your money in full within five days if these Walkie Talkies fail to do the amazing things stated in this ad.

TWO-WAY
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only
\$3.49
postpaid
2 SETS
COMPLETE

MAIL THIS COUPON

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63 Central Ave., Ossining, N. Y.

- ☐ Send 2 Walkie Talkie units _____ Price \$3.49
☐ Send complete Walkie Talkies plus adapter and aerial _____ Price \$5.47
☐ Full payment enclosed. Rush order post-paid.
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Address _____
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At the unbelievably low price of only \$1. (plus a 25¢ charge for wrapping, mailing and tax) you can own these all-time Cowboy Hits. Every recording is a full-length one—songs and orchestration and will play on any 78 rpm player or changer. Records are pure vinylite, tough, virtually unbreakable.

YOU GET THESE GREAT RECORDINGS

HOME ON THE RANGE
OLD CHISHOLM TRAIL
LAST ROUNDUP
RED RIVER VALLEY
BOOTS AND SADDLES
COWBOY JACK
BILLY BOY
BURY ME NOT

A \$3.00 VALUE — A SAVING OF MORE THAN 250%

They are full size 10" records, each one plays more than 10 minutes. At today's prices on regular records they would cost more than \$3.50. You get them for only \$1. plus mailing charge. \$1.25 in all. Send today. Your satisfaction absolutely guaranteed.

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UNBREAKABLE RECORDS

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orchestrated with top soloists—
nothing has been cut.

8 GREAT HITS \$1 for only

FREE! A genuine turntable stroboscope. Enables you to check if your phonograph is turning at correct speed. Checks 78, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ and 45 rpm. Sent to you absolutely free with every order.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

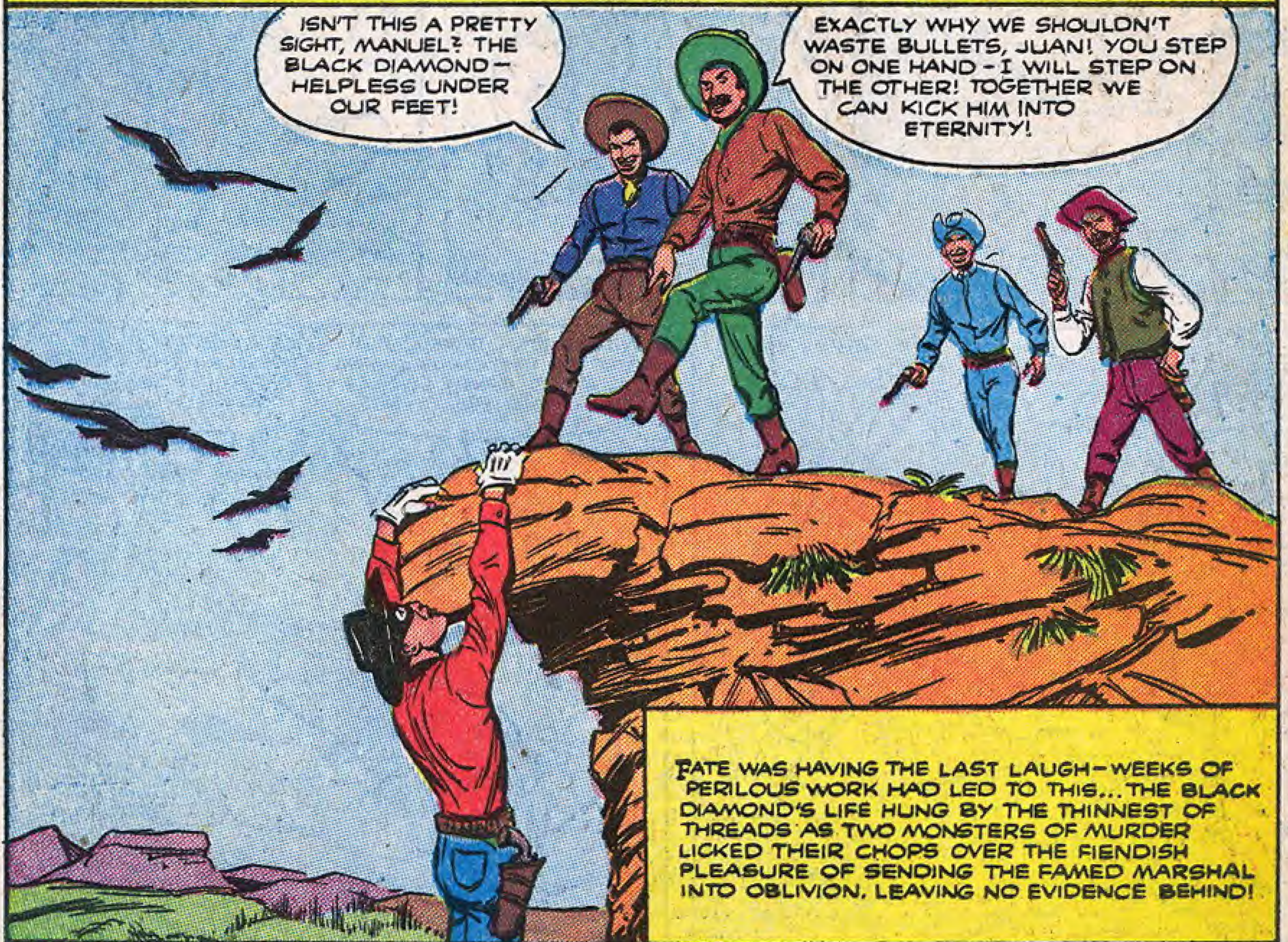
Empire Merchandising Co., Dept. R-10
2 Marble Ave., Pleasantville, New York
Please rush me 8 COWBOY HITS on vinylite unbreakable records along with the stroboscope. I enclose \$1.00 for the records and 25¢ to cover the cost of wrapping and shipping.

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ADDRESS _____
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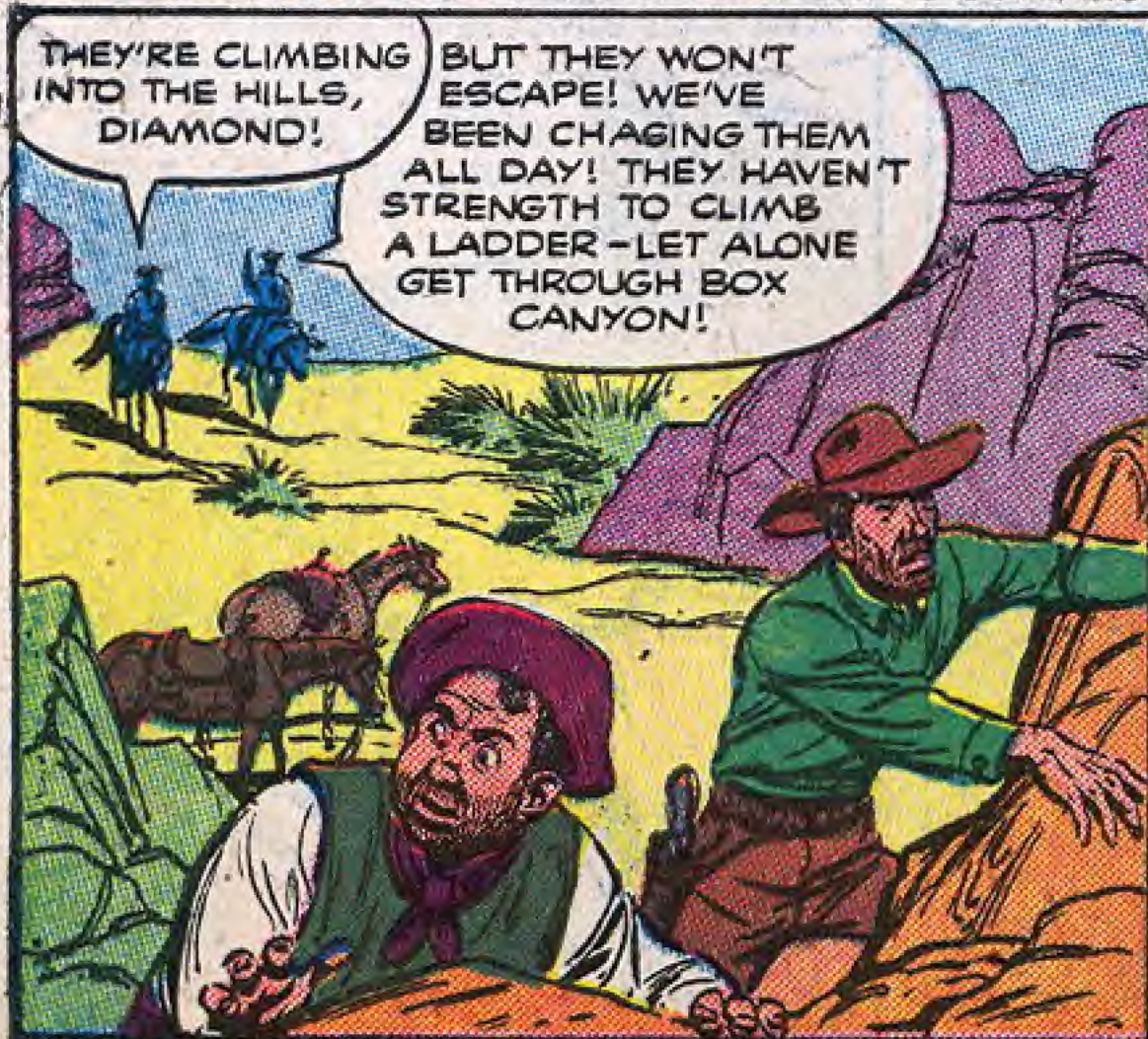
WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE

BLACK DIAMOND

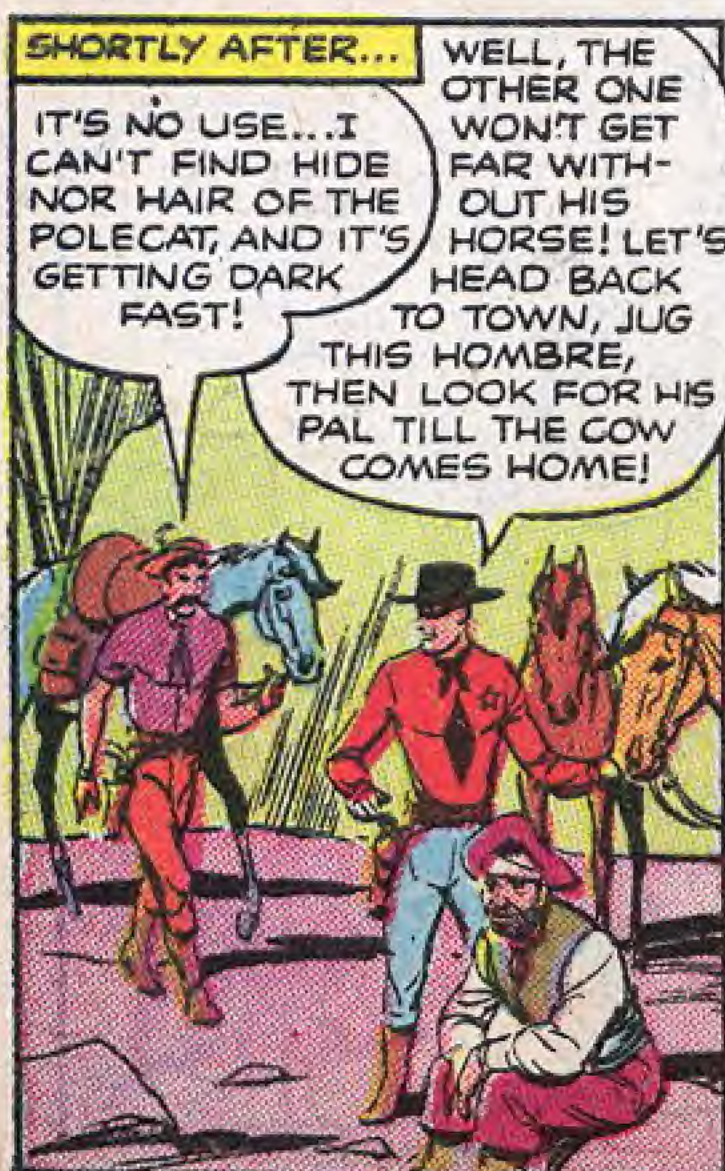
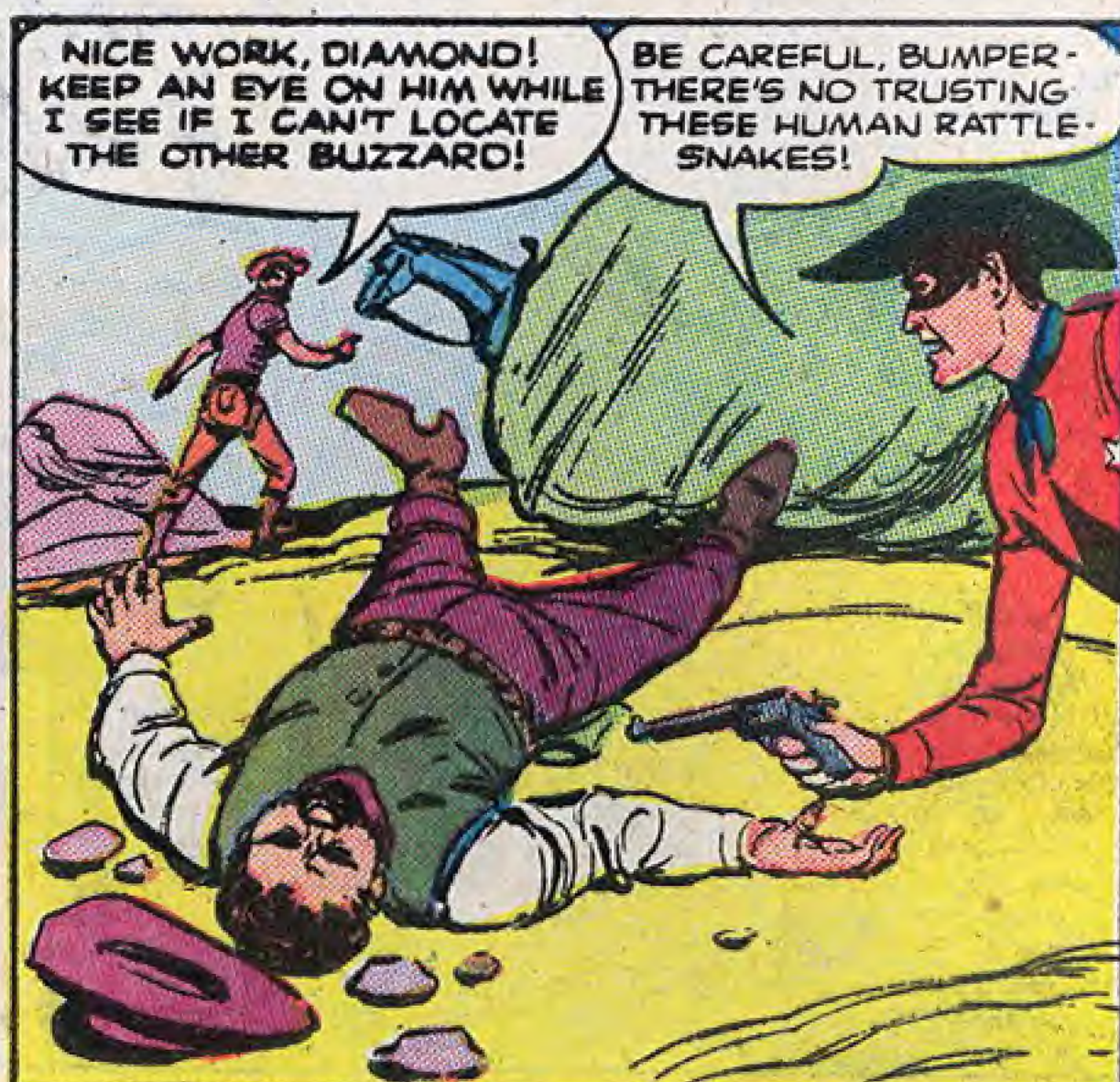
TRIED TO FATHOM THE SINISTER SECRET OF
THE SANCTUARY OF DEATH?



A BLAZING HOT AFTERNOON IN AUGUST-1876 WAS DRAWING TO A CLOSE AND SO WAS THE BLACK DIAMOND'S PURSUIT OF A PAIR OF DESPERATE OUTLAWS...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

LUCKY! HUH! THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SIX MONTHS! EVERY OUTLAW WE TRAIL JUST UPS AND DISAPPEARS! YOU KNOW THE ANSWER! TALK!

I...I DON'T KNOW ANYTHIN'! I DIDN'T GET AWAY, DID I?

NO YOU DIDN'T. AND NEITHER WILL YOUR PAL! WE'LL BE BACK FOR HIM TONIGHT!

YOU'LL NEVER GET HIM! NOT EVERY GALLOOT IS AS UNLUCKY AS JOE ADCOCK!

SO THAT'S YOUR NAME!

LATER THAT NIGHT AT THE JAILHOUSE...

MR. ADCOCK SEEMS TO GET QUITE A KICK OUT OF THOSE LANTERNS YOU'RE FIXIN' UP, BUMPER!

LET HIM LAUGH! HE DOESN'T KNOW YET - BUT THE LAW LAUGHS LAST!

HOURS LATER . IN BOX CANYON.

THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, BLACK DIAMOND! THE VARMINT WAITED TILL WE WERE OUT OF SIGHT, THEN DOUBLED BACK ON HIS TRAIL!

LISTEN, BUMPER! SHOTS! COME ON!

BANG! BANG!

A POSSE! LOOKS LIKE THEY GOT THEIR MAN!

AAAAA-EEE!

THAT'S NO POSSE, BUMPER! BUT THAT MAN THEY SHOT, LOOKS LIKE OUR MAN - ADCOCK'S PAL! SOMETHING'S QUEER! LET'S GET TO HIM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

YOU MEN - STOP SHOOTIN'! THIS IS THE BLACK DIAMOND!

THERE'S YOUR ANSWER! THEY SURE AREN'T LAWMEN!

WE CAN'T BOTHER WITH THEM NOW! ADCOCK'S PAL IS STILL ALIVE! HE CAN TELL US SOMETHING, IF WE GET TO HIM IN TIME!

TH...THE DOUBLE-CROSSERS! LYIN' DOUBLE-CROSSERS! THEY TOOK MY \$2,000! THEN THEY TRIED TO KILL ME - I

WHO DID! WHO? SPEAK MAN!

YOU'LL NEVER GET THE ANSWER, FROM HIM BOB! THE GUY'S DEAD!

I KNOW WHO CAN GIVE US THE ANSWER... THAT FAT COYOTE, ADCOCK!

BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

HOURS LATER...IN THE BLACK DIAMOND'S OFFICE...

WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE YOUR SADDLE PARD AGAIN. ADCOCK! FIRST, THEY TOOK HIS MONEY, THEN THEY KILLED HIM!

THE LOUSY DOUBLE-CROSSERS! I HAD A REASON FOR NOT TALKIN' BEFORE, BUT WHEN I SEE WHAT THEM BACK-BITING RATTLETS WOULD HAVE DONE TO ME...



REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT OUTLAWS DISAPPEARIN' INTO THIN AIR RECENTLY? OKAY-BILL AND ME WAS HEADED FOR THE PERFECT HIDEOUT!

THERE'S NO PERFECT HIDEOUT! SOONER OR LATER, WE'D TRACK YOU DOWN!



MAYBE SO-MAY-BE NOT! ANYWAY, WORD GOT AROUND THAT RICARDO'S RANCH WAS THE PERFECT HIDEOUT FOR OUTLAWS!

THE RICARDO RANCH? I THOUGHT MANUEL AND JUAN RICARDO WERE RESPECTABLE CATTLE RAISERS!



WE THOUGHT THEY WAS ON OUR SIDE TOO! THEY MUST HAVE DOUBLE-CROSSED DOZENS OF HOMBRES WHO MAYBE AIN'T ANY MORE ALIVE TO TELL THE STORY THAN BILL IS!

SOME SANCTUARY! - A SANCTUARY OF DEATH!



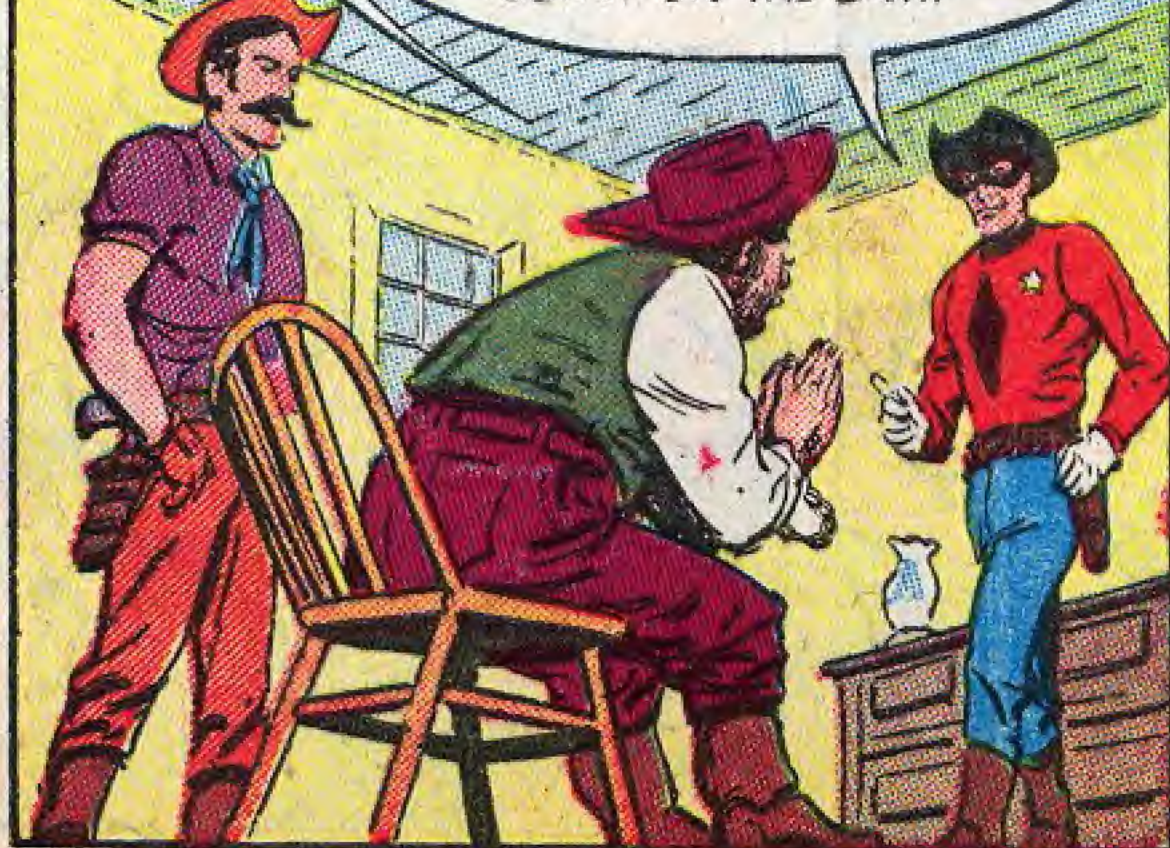
IT'S A RACKET THEY'RE RUNNIN'! THE SUCKER SHOWS UP AT THE RICARDOS LOADED WITH DOUGH TO PAY FOR "HIDING OUT", BUT THEY ONLY STAY LONG ENOUGH TO GET SLUGS PUMPED INTO 'EM! AND THEIR MONEY STOLEN! IF I COULD GET THOSE DOGS...

MAYBE YOU CAN, ADCOCK!



TELL ME HOW, AN' I'LL DO ANYTHIN' YOU SAY!

OKAY-SHOW UP AT THE RICARDO RANCH-TELL 'EM YOU GAVE ME THE SLIP-DROP THE HINT. THAT WHEN YOU'RE FREE AGAIN, YOU'RE GOING TO DIG UP A FORTUNE IN BURIED LOOT THAT YOU AND BILL STASHED AWAY BEFORE YOU TOOK IT ON THE LAM!



I GIT IT! RICARDOS'LL WANT ME TO TAKE 'EM WHERE THE LOOT IS BURIED, THEN TRY TO BUMP ME OFF...YOU COME IN! LET'S SHAKE ON IT!

IF WE SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH THE RICARDOS, ADCOCK-YOUR HELP WILL GO FAR TOWARD REDUCING YOUR JAIL SENTENCE!

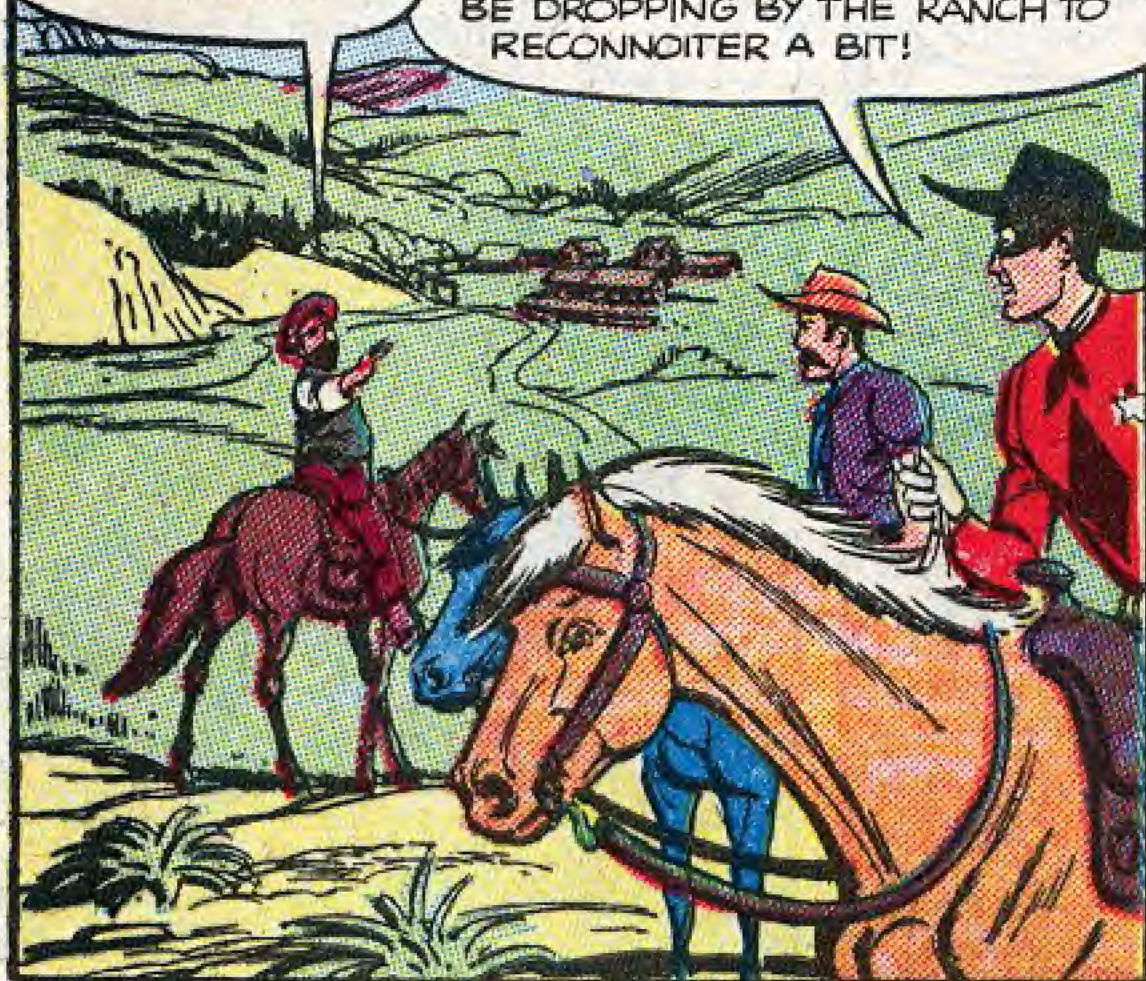


BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

LATER, THAT MORNING, NEAR THE RICARDO RANCH...

WISH ME LUCK, BLACK DIAMOND!

ACT SMART AND YOU'LL MAKE YOUR OWN LUCK, ADCOCK! WE'LL BE DROPPING BY THE RANCH TO RECONNOITER A BIT!

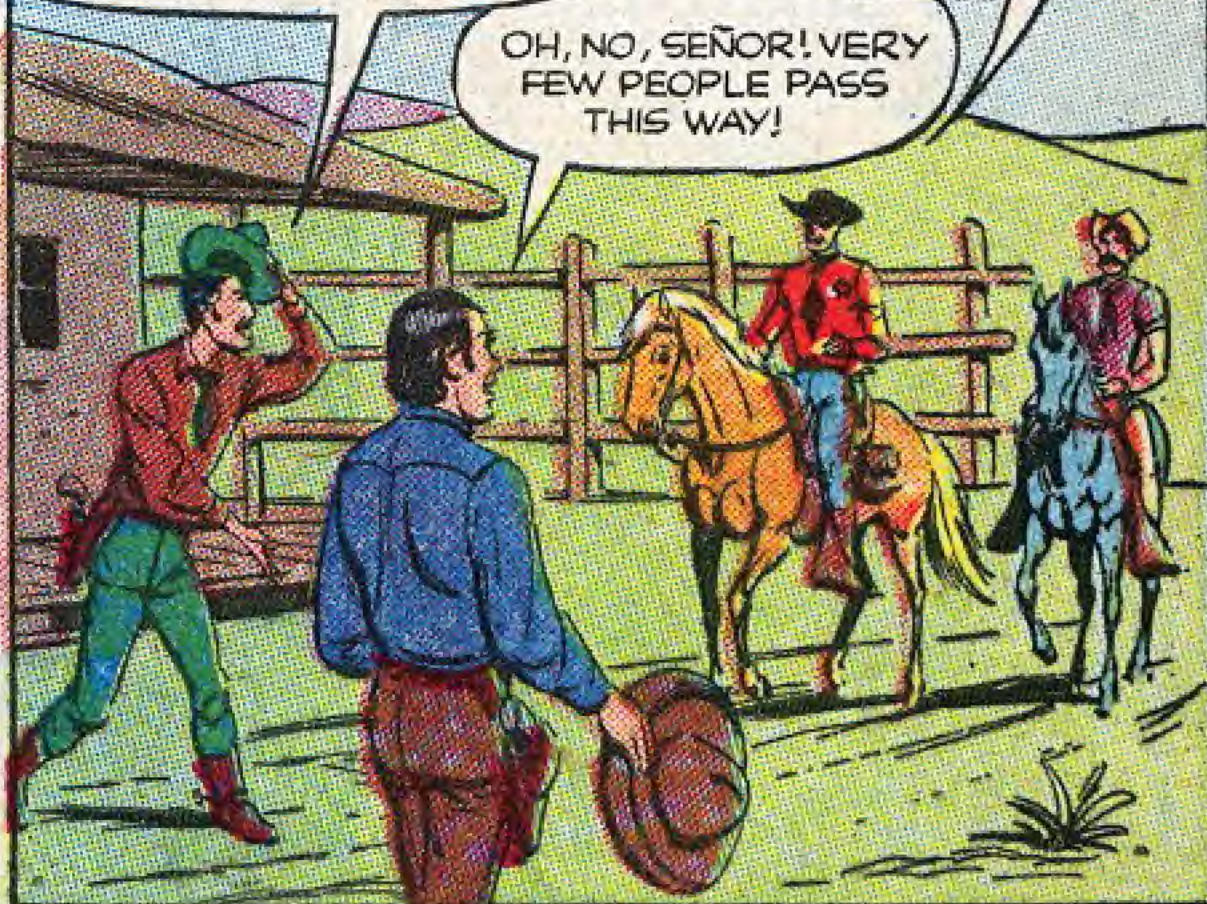


AN HOUR LATER...

WELCOME, BLACK DIAMOND! MY POOR RANCH IS HONORED BY YOUR PRESENCE! WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN OUTLAW NAMED ADCOCK—GAVE US THE SLIP THIS MORNING—SEEN ANY STRANGERS HEREABOUTS?

OH, NO, SEÑOR! VERY FEW PEOPLE PASS THIS WAY!



THEN YOU WON'T MIND IF WE HAVE A LOOK AROUND JUST TO MAKE SURE?

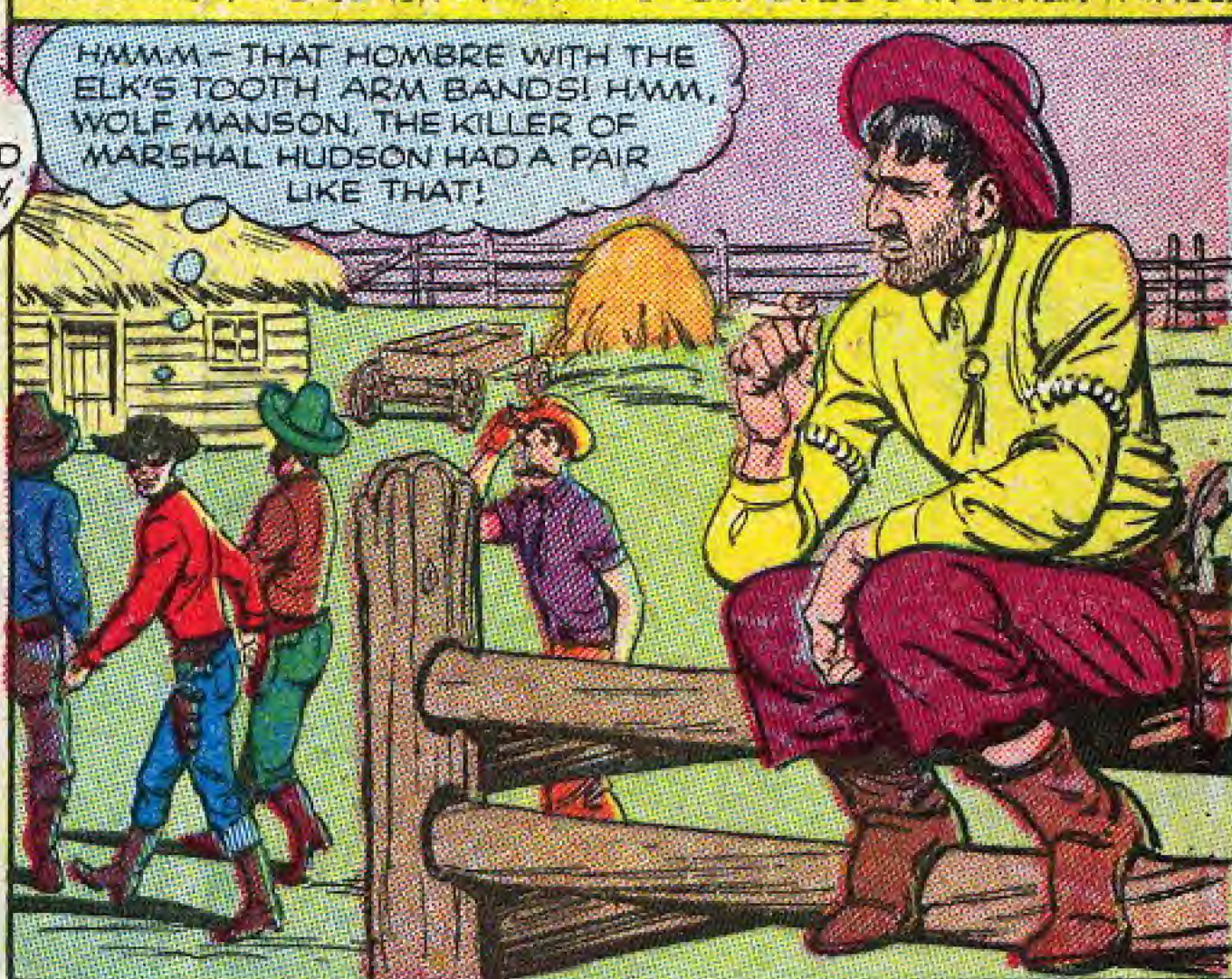
OH, NO, SEÑOR! IT IS OUR PLEASURE! WE WILL ESCORT YOU OURSELVES!

IT IS NOT OFTEN WE HAVE SUCH DISTINGUISHED VISITORS! THIS WAY, PLEASE!



BUT WHILE THE RICARDOS WERE POINTING OUT THE SIGHTS ON THE RANCH, THE BLACK DIAMOND'S KEEN EYES SAW OTHER THINGS!

HMMM—THAT HOMBRE WITH THE ELK'S TOOTH ARM BANDS! HMM, WOLF MANSON, THE KILLER OF MARSHAL HUDSON HAD A PAIR LIKE THAT!



THERE WE'RE OTHER MOMENTOS AND SOUVENIRS BLACK DIAMOND ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS DESPERADOES WHO HAD DISAPPEARED...

HICK GRANNERY'S WHITE MEERSCHAUM PIPE!

JIM, THE SLAVE'S LUCKY COIN!

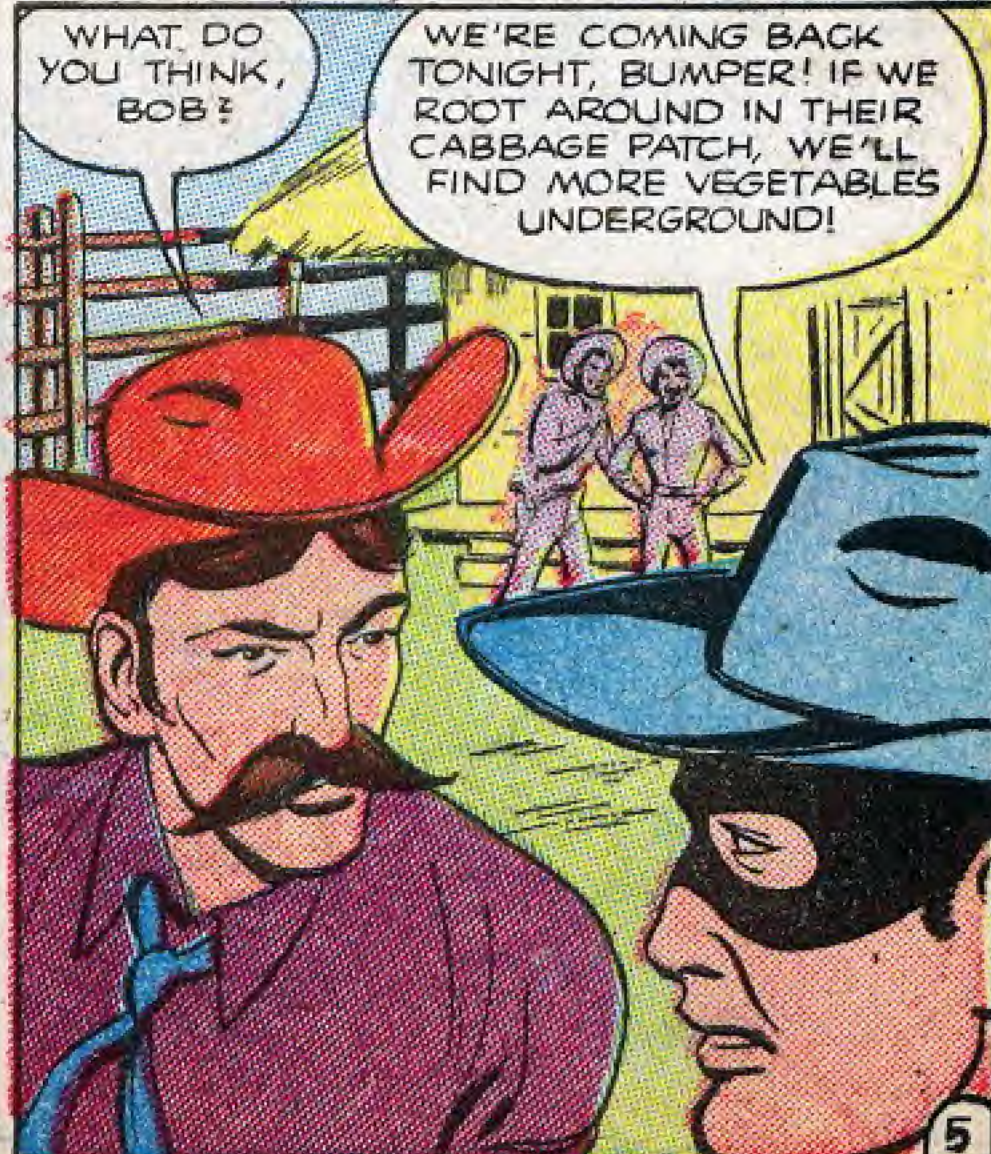
STRANGLER BEECH'S VELVET GLOVES!

THERE'S ONLY ONE DAGGER LIKE THAT IN THE WEST! IT BELONGED TO WACO HYLER!



WHAT DO YOU THINK, BOB?

WE'RE COMING BACK TONIGHT, BUMPER! IF WE ROOT AROUND IN THEIR CABBAGE PATCH, WE'LL FIND MORE VEGETABLES UNDERGROUND!



THAT EVENING—ON A SLOPE OVERLOOKING THE RICARDO RANCH...

THE RICARDOS FELL FOR THE GAG! THEY'RE GOIN' OUT WITH ME TOMORROW TO DIG UP THE TREASURE! THEY'LL BE DRIVIN' SOME CATTLE AS A COVER UP!

NICE GOING, ADCOCK—WE'LL BE BEHIND YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

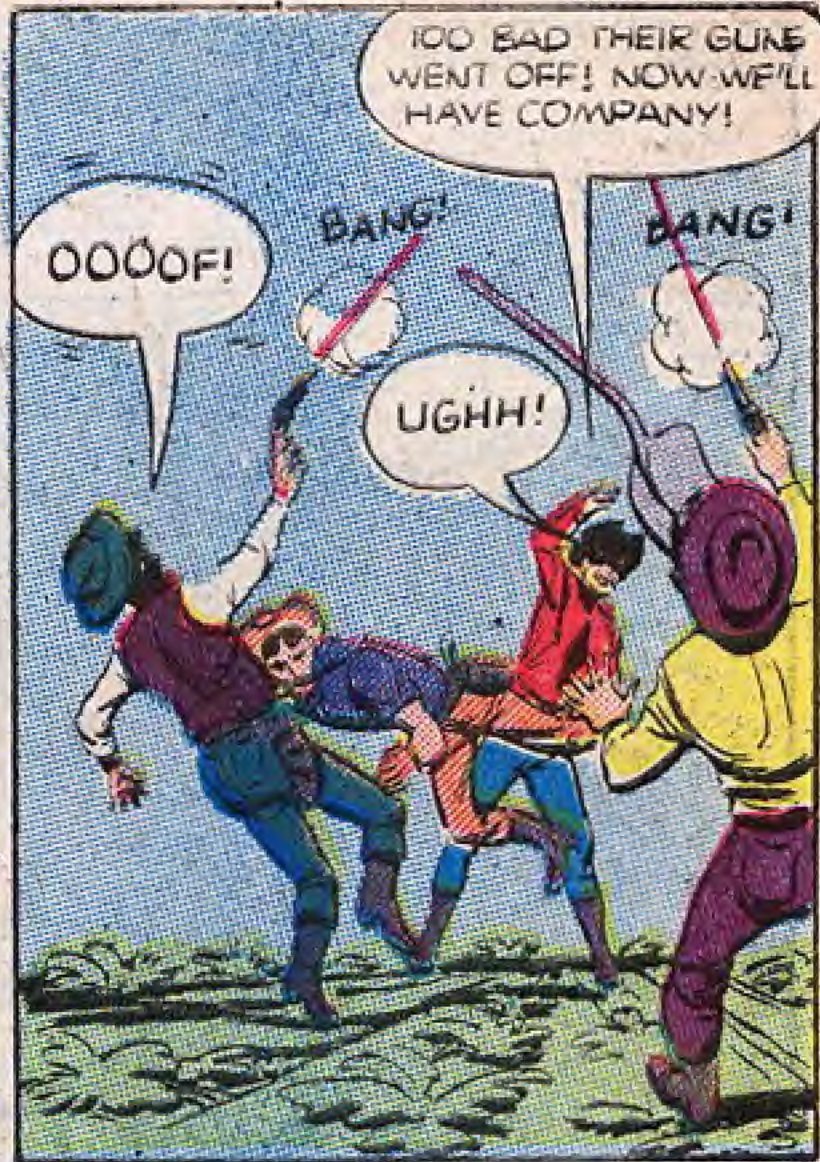


LATE THAT NIGHT IN A VEGETABLE PATCH BEYOND THE CORRAL...

IF THERE ARE ANY BODIES HERE—THEY'D BE WHERE THE EARTH IS FRESHLY TURNED!

WHO'S OUT THERE? STOP, OR WE'LL SHOOT!

BOB! A COUPLE OF WATCH DOGS!



TOO BAD THEIR GUNS WENT OFF! NOW WE'LL HAVE COMPANY!

OOOOF!

BANG!

BANG!

UGHH!

THE BLACK DIAMOND! GASP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT? WHY HAVE YOU ATTACKED MY MEN?

JUST A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING, RICARDO—WE WERE HEADED HOME AND STUMBLED ACROSS YOUR PROPERTY BY MISTAKE—YOUR MEN JUMPED US AND WE DEFENDED OURSELVES!

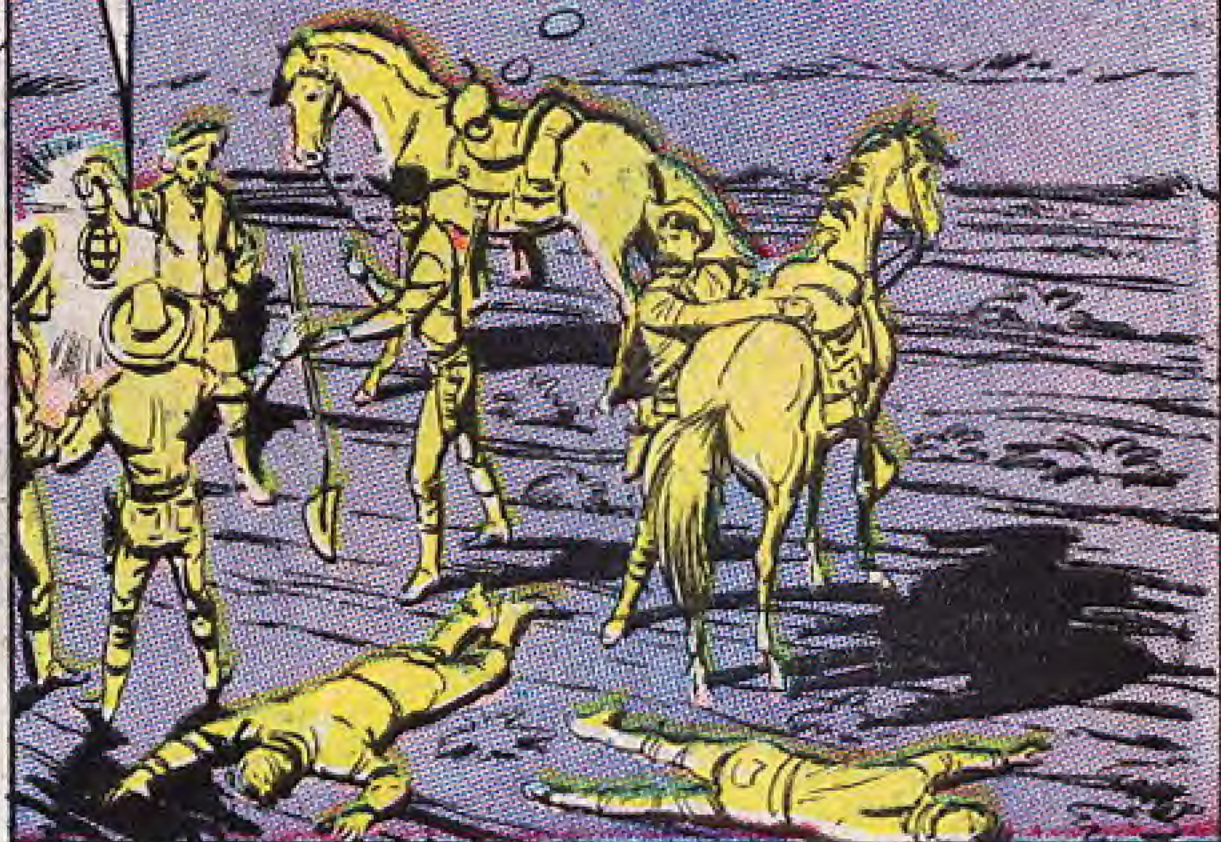
SO WE SEE! THE ROAD BACK TO TOWN LIES THAT WAY! YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE IT, AND LEAVE US IN PEACE!



BY THE WAY, DO NOT FORGET YOUR SHOVEL! A SHOVEL MAY COME IN HANDY SOME TIME!

IT SURE DOES! A MARSHAL NEVER KNOWS WHAT HE'S LIABLE TO DIG UP! HASTA LA VISTA, AMIGO!

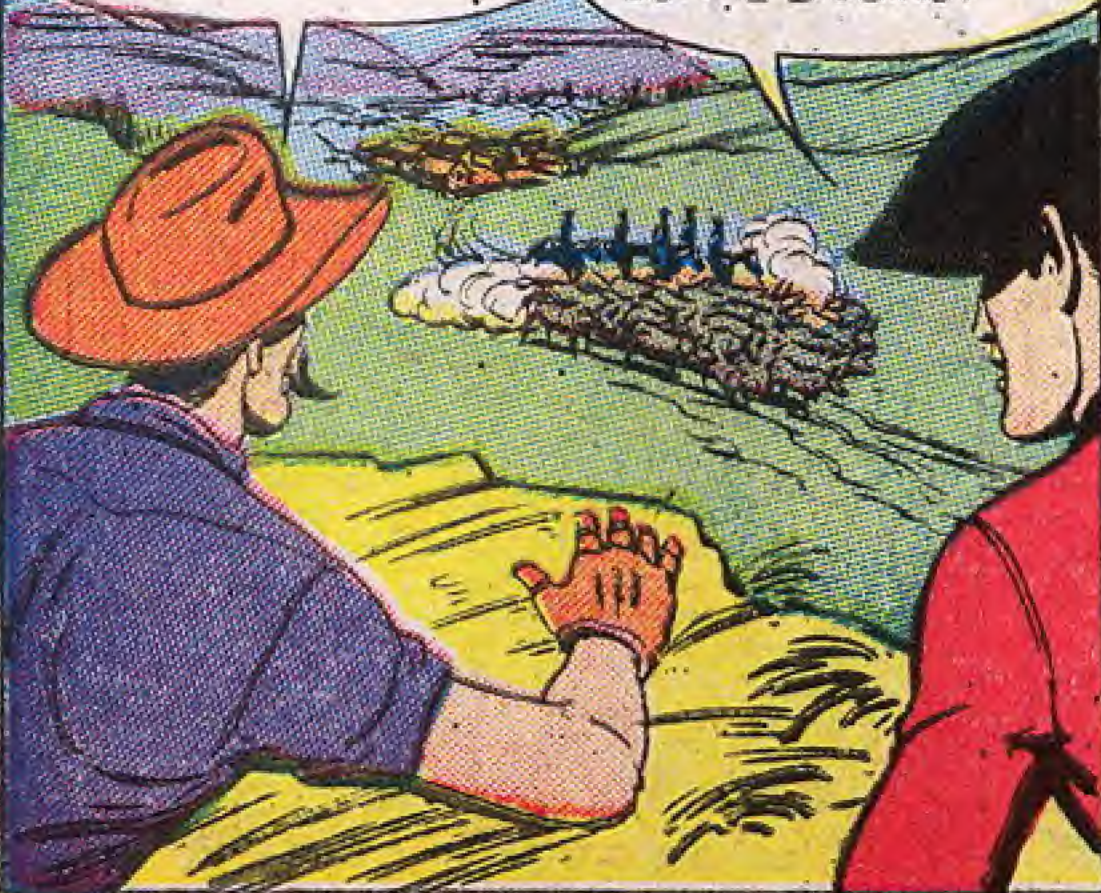
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, PAL, YOU'LL BE DANGLING AT THE END OF A ROPE!



THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

ADCOCK GAVE US THE STRAIGHT GOODS! THEY'RE GOING OUT LOOKING FOR ADCOCK'S BURIED LOOT!

WE CAN PICK UP THEIR TRAIL EASILY! FIRST, WE'LL LOOK IN THE RICARDO PLANTATION—AND THIS TIME WE WON'T DO THE DIGGING!

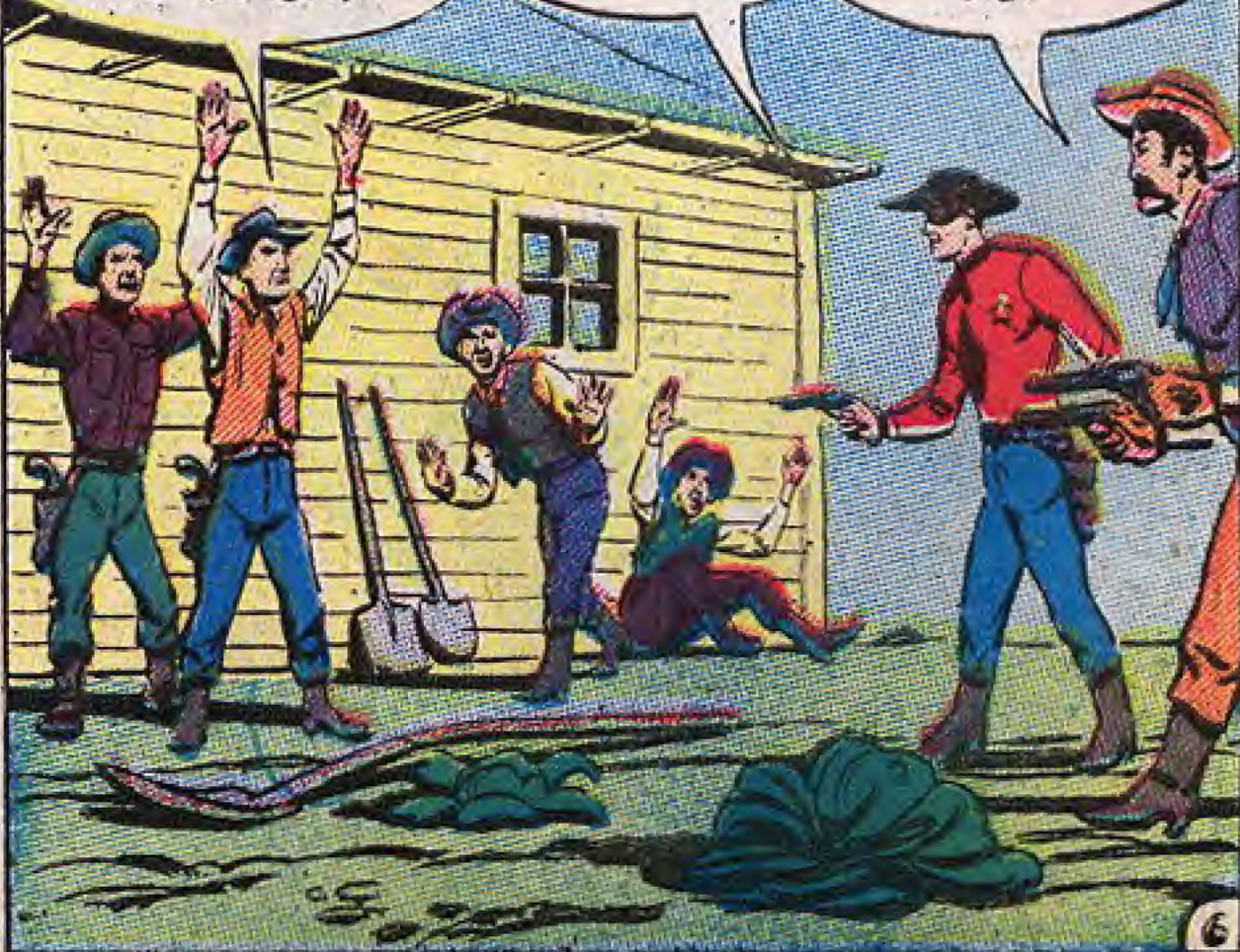


A HALF-HOUR LATER...

YOU GOT NO BUSINESS HANGIN' ROUND THIS RANCH!

QUIET! JUST PICK UP THE SHOVELS AND GET TO WORK!

AND NO FUNNY STUFF, OR WE'LL PLANT YOU IN THE HOLES YOU DIG!



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

SHORTLY AFTER...

HMMM - THE RICARDO BROTHERS SURE KNOW HOW TO HIDE OUT A GUY! WHO'D EVER THINK OF LOOKING HERE FOR A SLAUGHTER HOUSE?

IT'S THE WORK OF MONSTERS, DIAMOND! I FOUND EIGHTEEN CORPSES!



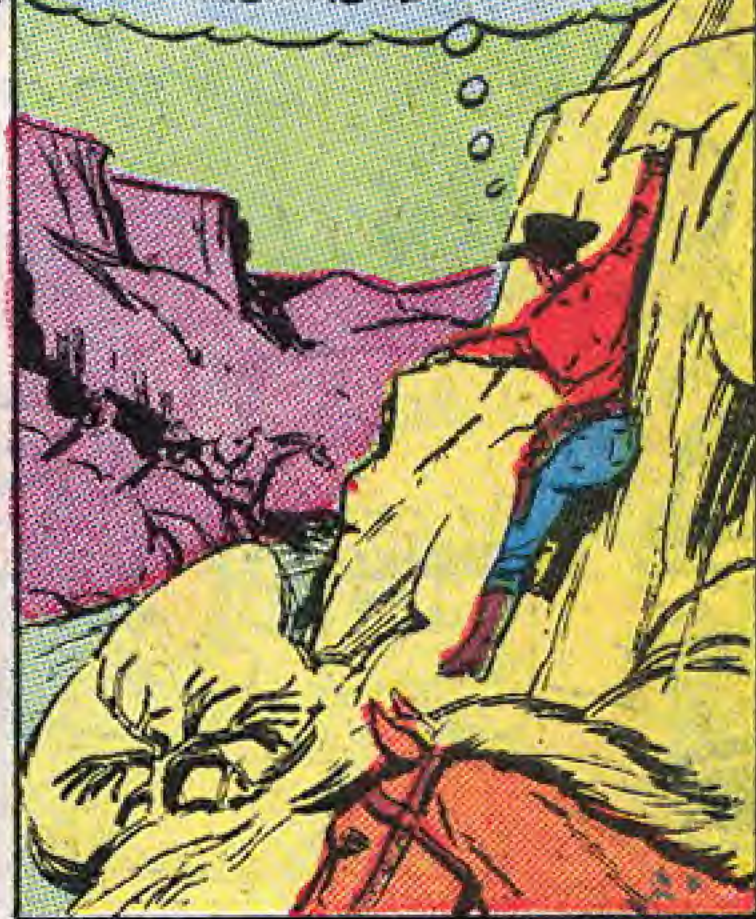
WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO HANG THE RICARDOS HIGHER THAN PIKE'S PEAK! TAKE THESE COYOTES INTO TOWN - THEN TAKE THE SHORT CUT AND JOIN ME AT BOX CANYON! THAT'S WHERE I ARRANGED WITH ADCKOCK TO FIND HIS BURIED LOOT!

RIGHT, BOB! BUT WATCH YOUR STEP! THERE'S NOTHING STUPID ABOUT THE RICARDOS!



AN HOUR LATER - IN BOX CANYON...

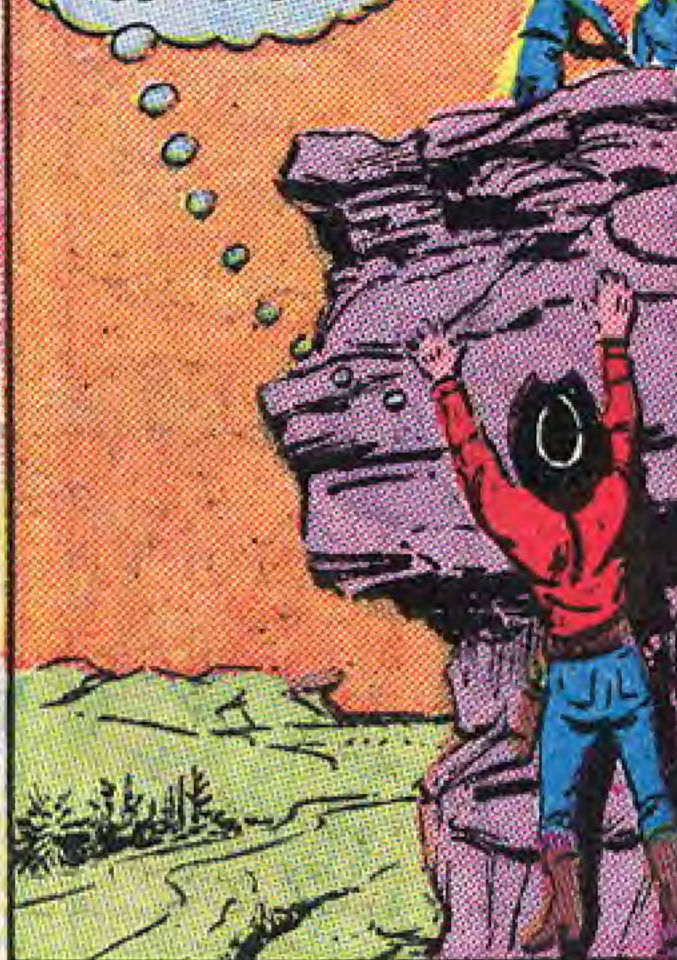
HUH - BUMPER DIDN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE OUR AMIGOS! THEY'VE CLOSED THE LOW ROAD TO THE CANYON! OKAY - I'LL TAKE THE HIGH ROAD!



...THEY'VE STARTED TO DIG ALREADY! THAT DOESN'T GIVE ME MUCH TIME TO SAVE ADCKOCK! IF I RUSH 'EM FROM HERE - THEY'RE A CINCH TO DROP ME!



OKAY - WE'LL SNEAK UP ON 'EM FROM BEHIND - HANDS - DO YOUR STUFF!



IF I CAN COME UP BEHIND THESE BUZZARDS... IT'LL BE WORTH THE RISK!



SUDDENLY...

LOOK, MANUEL, COMPANY!

GASP!



NO BULLETS, JUAN, PLEASE! BULLETS COST MONEY... BUT A GENTLE KICK - HEH - AND THE BLACK DIAMOND PLUNGES TO AN "ACCIDENTAL" DEATH!

NO... NO... WAIT! IT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD TO KILL ME...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

I'M SURPRISED AT YOU GUYS! WHERE IS YOUR IMAGINATION? LEAVE IT TO ME TO GET RID OF THE BLACK DIAMOND! HERE WE GO!

ADCOCK! GASP!

YEP, BLACK DIAMOND, I'M IN CAHOOTS WITH THE RICARDOS! I RECRUIT THE SUCKERS TO HIDE OUT IN THE SPANIARD'S CABBAGE PATCH!

I WAS NO PAL OF BILL'S - I WAS HIS UNDERTAKER! LIKE I'M YOUR UNDERTAKER! I WON'T LET 'EM SHOOT YOU, OR KICK YOU TO DEATH.

.. WE'RE GOIN' TO BURY YOU ALIVE! THEN WE'LL REALLY HAVE BURIED TREASURE! HAW-HAW! SHOVEL HIM IN, BOYS!

SUDDENLY...

PWANNG!

YI-I-I-I!

HEY! SOMEBODY'S UP IN THE ROCKS SHOOTIN' AT US!

IT'S BUMPER! THANK HEAVEN HE ARRIVED IN TIME!

GO GET 'EM, BLACK DIAMOND!

I-EEEE!

WITH PLEASURE, BUMPER!

BANG! BANG!

AS YOU SAID, MANUEL, A KICK IS JUST A LITTLE EXERCISE!

N...NO .NO! N-EEEEAAA!

I WILL KILL HIM!

NO, YOU DON'T JUAN! MY BULLETS ARE AS CHEAP AS YOURS!

I-I-I-AAAA!

MOMENTS LATER...

IT'S A GOOD THING I MET AN ARMY TROUP TRAIN ON THE WAY, BLACK DIAMOND. OR YOU'D BE LYING IN THAT HOLE INSTEAD OF MANUEL!

JUSTICE WINS AGAIN, BUMPER! ADCOCK AND THE RICARDOS FOUND THE ONLY SANC-TUARY ANY KILLER DESERVES - IN DEATH!

The End

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\$2⁶⁹

**COLORFUL,
PLASTIC**

11-piece Housewares Set

limited time
ONLY

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Fit over any
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cheese, etc

Made by the makers of the only line of its type to carry the
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING SEAL OF APPROVAL

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**Plus lovely Cosmetic
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SEND NO MONEY

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Send me _____ complete 11-piece Plastic Sets, including FREE Cosmetic Bag.

- ☐ I will pay postman \$1 for each set, plus postage
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Address _____

City _____ Zone No. _____ State _____

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED—OR MONEY BACK

RIDE WITH **BLACK DIAMOND**

as he matches wits with "THE TERROR of the HEADLESS RIDER"

IT WAS HIS TENTH VISIT TO BLACK-FOOT WITHIN A MONTH—AND THE TOWNSPEOPLE HAD GOOD REASON TO FEAR THE FRIGHTFUL FIGURE—FOR DEATH RODE WITH THE HEADLESS RIDER!

CRACK! CRACK!
CRACK!

IT'S HIM AGAIN—COME TO HAUNT US!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

IT'S HORRIBLE! HE'LL DESTROY US ALL!



HE'S BACK AGAIN—COMIN' HERE!

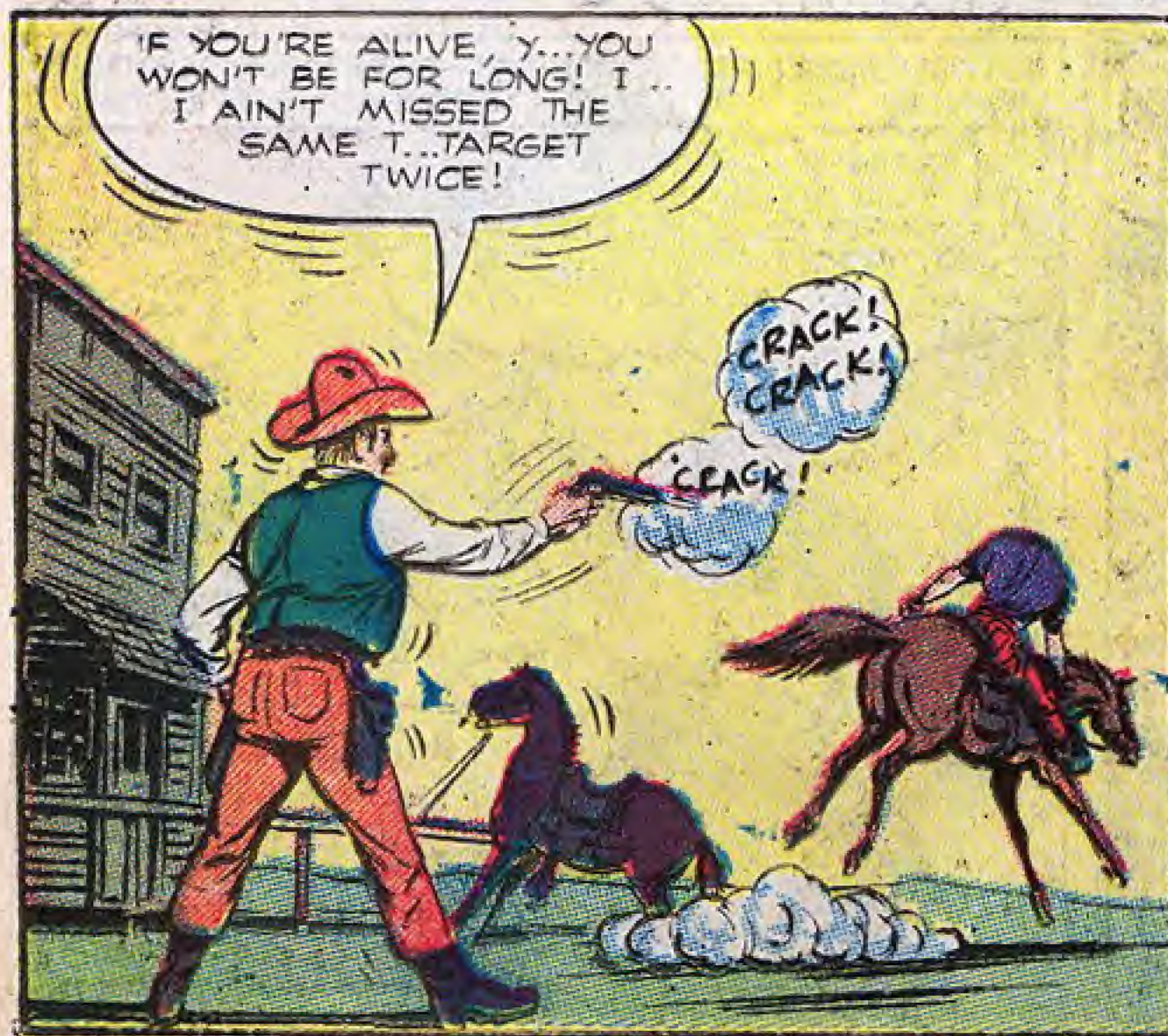
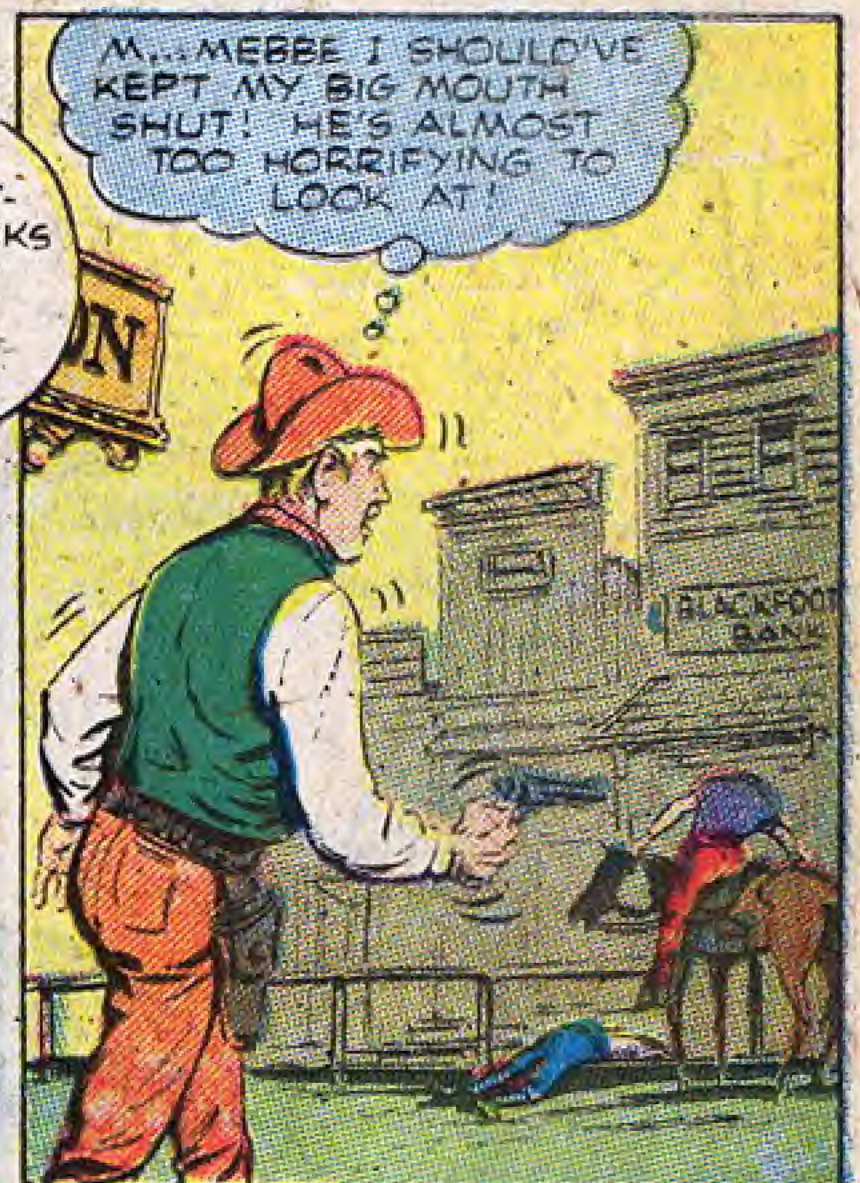
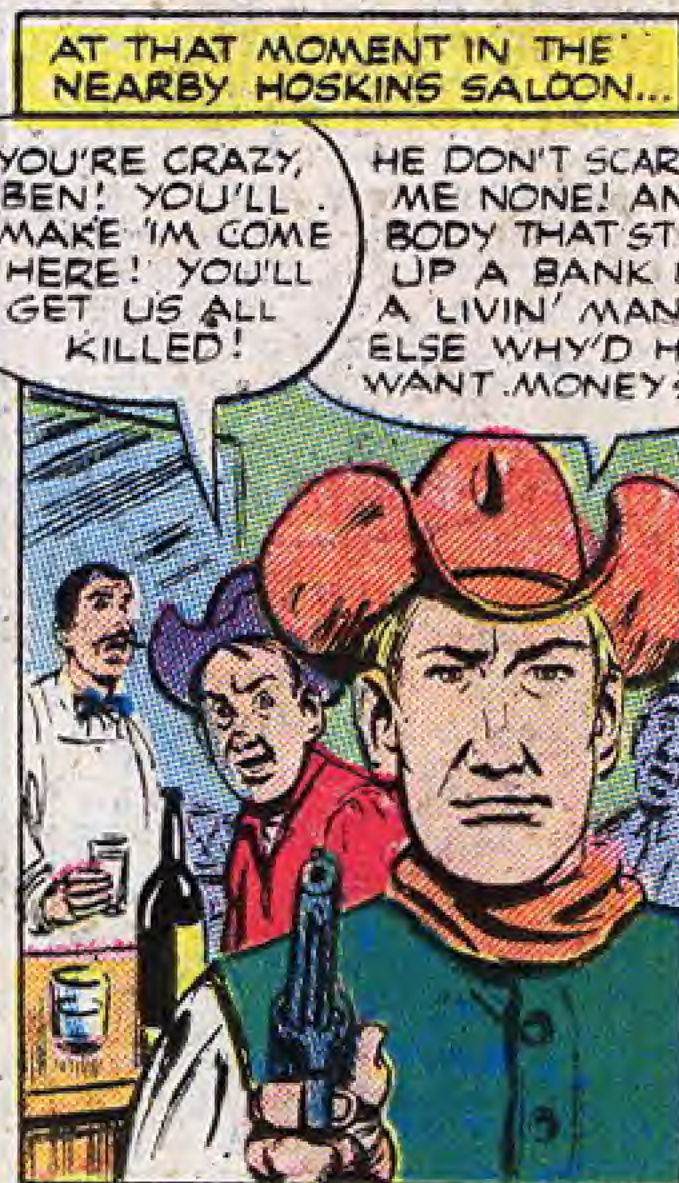
BLACKFOOT CITY BANK

ARRGH...

IT'S NO USE TRYIN' TO BLOCK HIS WAY! NOTHIN' CAN STOP THE HEADLESS RIDER!

CRACK!





Y...YOU ALL KNOW I'M A D..DEAD SHOT! I...I EMPTIED MY GUN AT HIM-AND THEM SHOTS MUST'VE GONE R...RIGHT THROUGH HIM! I TELL YA HE AIN'T HUMAN!

I TOLD YOU BEN-YOU'RE LUCKY HE DIDN'T KILL YOU!

SOMETHIN'S GOT TO BE DONE TO STOP THE HEAD-LESS RIDER, OR BLACKFOOT WILL SOON BE DESERTED! ONLY HOW CAN YOU STOP A MAN WHO AIN'T ALIVE?

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER, PEOPLE WERE BACK ON THE STREETS OF BLACKFOOT CITY! BUMPER, JUST ARRIVING, WAS MET BY SHERIFF ROY HANSON...

WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION ABOUT, SHERIFF? I'VE BEEN OUT IN THE HILLS LOOKIN' FOR THIS HEADLESS RIDER!

I WAS OVER AT THE K-BARN RANCH, BUMPER! BUT I WISH I'D BEEN HERE! THAT MURDERIN' GHOST CAME AGAIN!

WHAT?

WHILE YOU WERE OUT LOOKIN' FOR HIM, HE WAS HERE ROBBIN' THE BANK! TWO MEN DROPPED DEAD AT THE SIGHT OF HIM AND HE KILLED TWO OTHERS!

WE SENT FOR THE MARSHAL TWO MONTHS AGO! YOU CLAIM TO BE HIS DEPUTY, BUT YOU AIN'T DOIN' ANY BETTERN' WE ARE!

WHEN'S HE COMIN', BUMPER?

BLACK DIAMOND HAD TO STOP OFF AT HOBSON TO TESTIFY AT A COURT TRIAL! HE SHOULD BE HERE ANY DAY NOW!

THAT NIGHT, MATT AND PAUL LUNNON, ON THEIR WAY TO BLACKFOOT, CAME UPON A SLEEPING MAN...

MEBBE HE'S NOT ASLEEP, PAUL! I'LL ASK HIM HOW FAR IT IS...

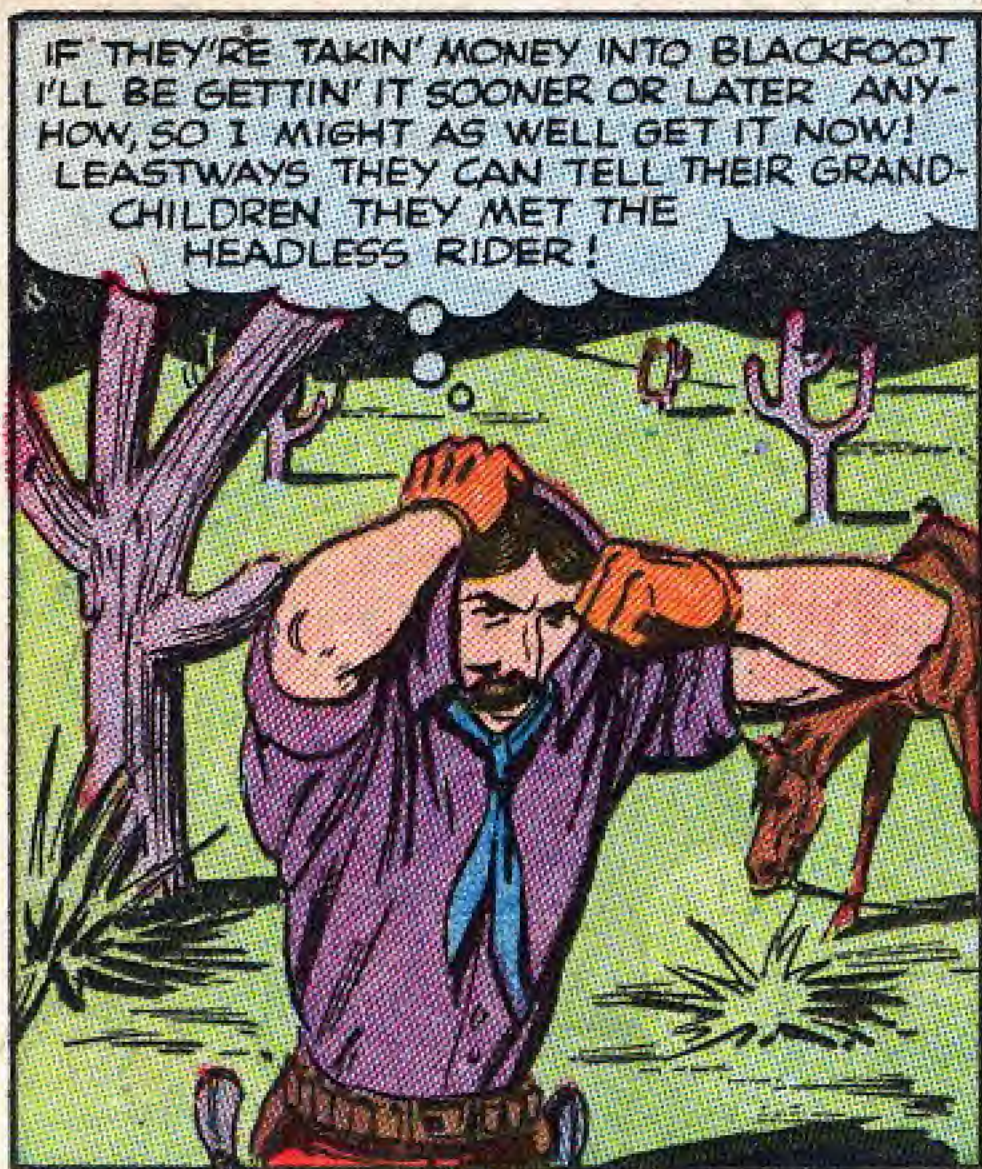
LOOK AT THEM RED PANTS, MATT! THAT'S SURE A QUEER GET-UP!

HE'S ASLEEP SURE ENOUGH, PAUL! I HAVEN'T GOT THE HEART TO WAKE HIM!

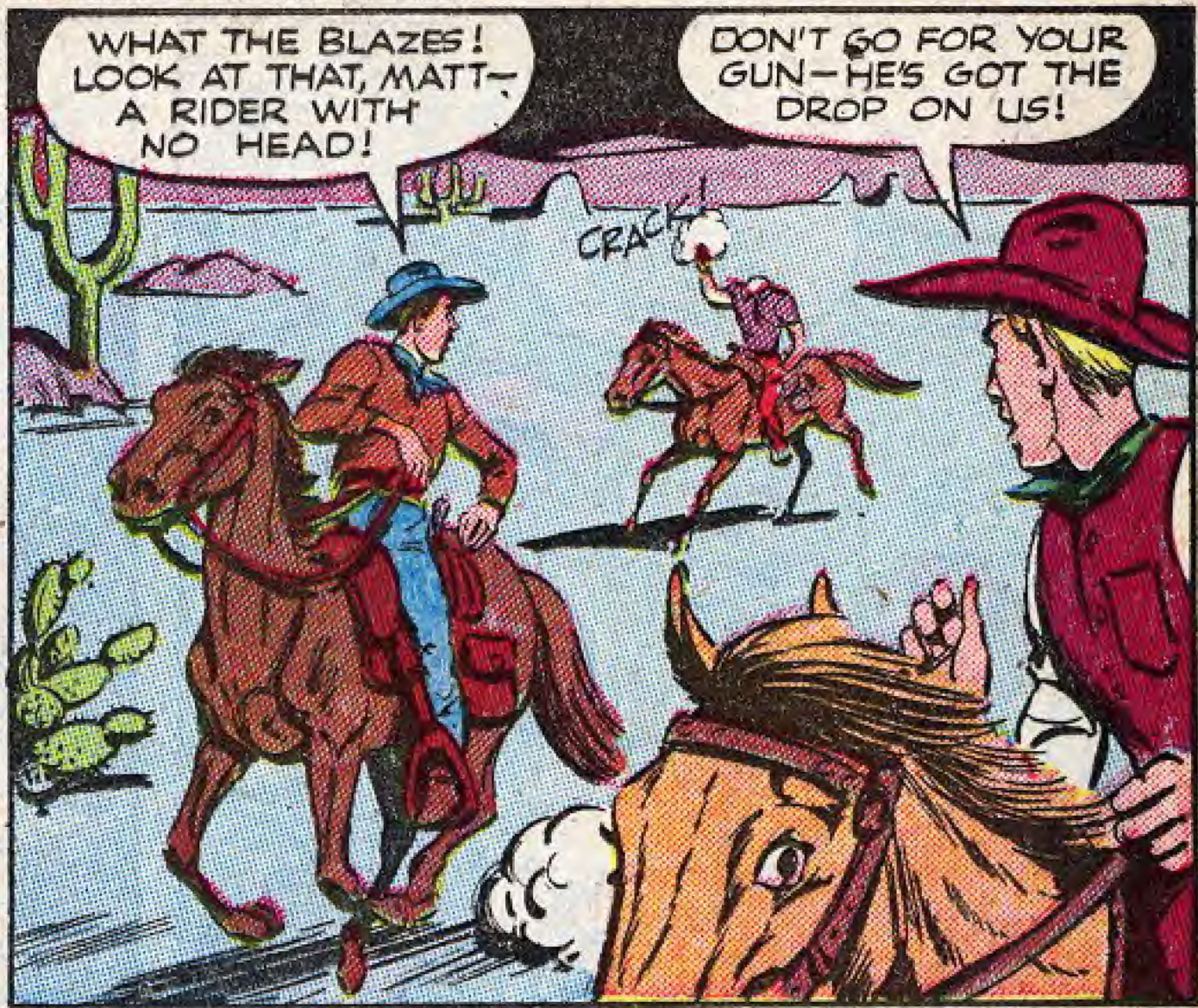
WELL, LET'S GET RIDIN' THEN! WE'LL WANT TO FIND A PLACE TO STAY IN BLACKFOOT BEFORE IT GETS TOO LATE!

BUT THE CLATTER OF HORSES' HOOFS AROUSES THE MAN IN THE RED PANTS-THE "HEADLESS" RIDER...

JUDGIN' FROM THEIR PACKS, THEY'RE STRANGERS...MAYBE GOIN' TO BLACKFOOT! THEY GOT GOOD PONIES...THAT MEANS THEY GOT MONEY!



IF THEY'RE TAKIN' MONEY INTO BLACKFOOT I'LL BE GETTIN' IT SOONER OR LATER ANYHOW, SO I MIGHT AS WELL GET IT NOW! LEASTWAYS THEY CAN TELL THEIR GRAND-CHILDREN THEY MET THE HEADLESS RIDER!



WHAT THE BLAZES! LOOK AT THAT, MATT—A RIDER WITH NO HEAD!

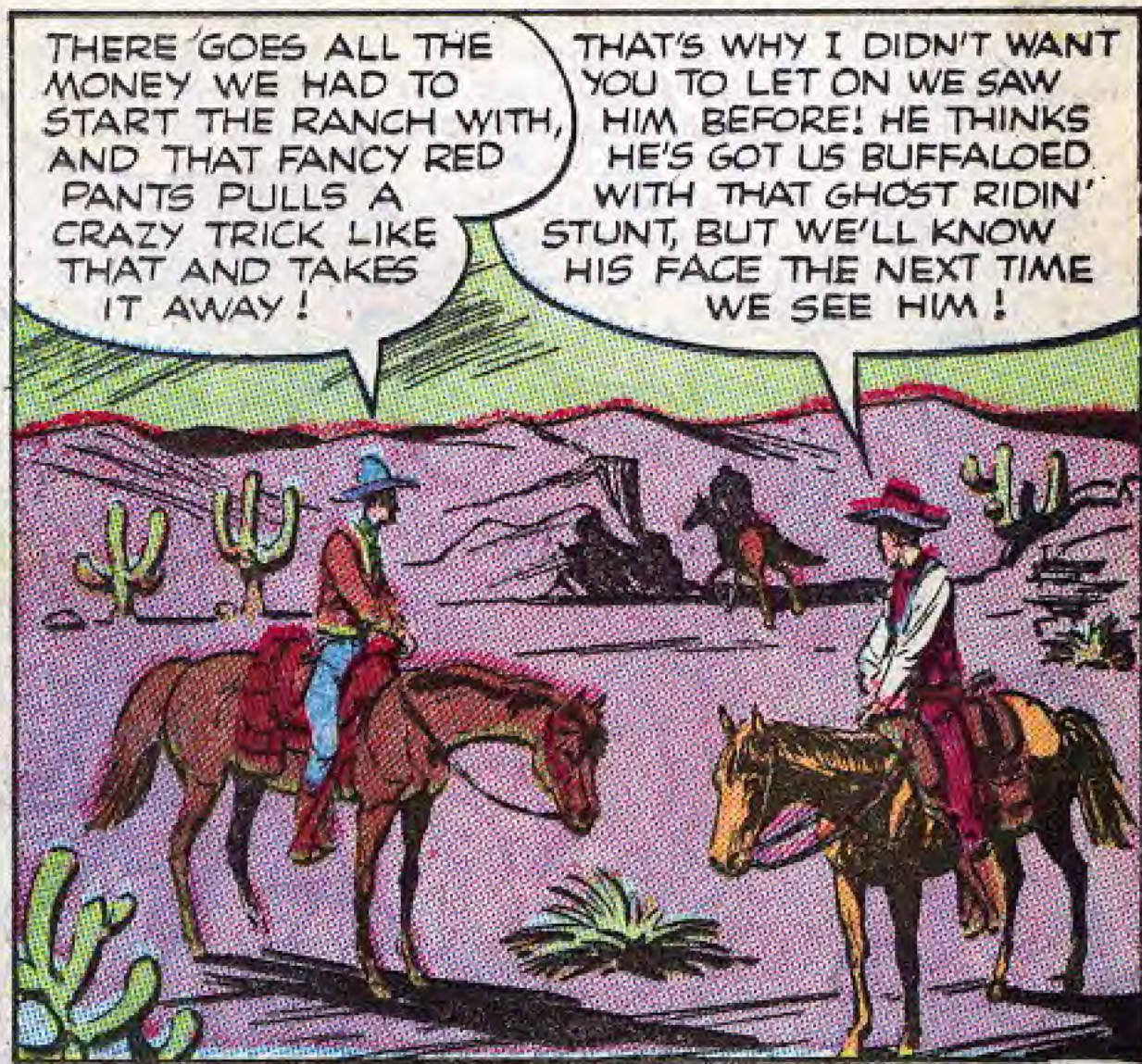
DON'T GO FOR YOUR GUN—HE'S GOT THE DROP ON US!

CRACK!



SAY—I KNOW...

SHUT UP, MATT—HE JUST WANTS OUR MONEY! LET HIM TAKE IT AND GO!



THERE GOES ALL THE MONEY WE HAD TO START THE RANCH WITH, AND THAT FANCY RED PANTS PULLS A CRAZY TRICK LIKE THAT AND TAKES IT AWAY!

THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO LET ON WE SAW HIM BEFORE! HE THINKS HE'S GOT US BUFFALOED WITH THAT GHOST RIDIN' STUNT, BUT WE'LL KNOW HIS FACE THE NEXT TIME WE SEE HIM!

TEN MINUTES LATER...

IT'LL BE RIGHT AMUSIN' TO VISIT TOWN AND HEAR ALL THEM SCARED RABBITS TALKIN' ABOUT ME! I'LL BE THERE WITH 'EM IN THE SALOON—THE HEADLESS RIDER DRINKIN' BEER! HAW, HAW!



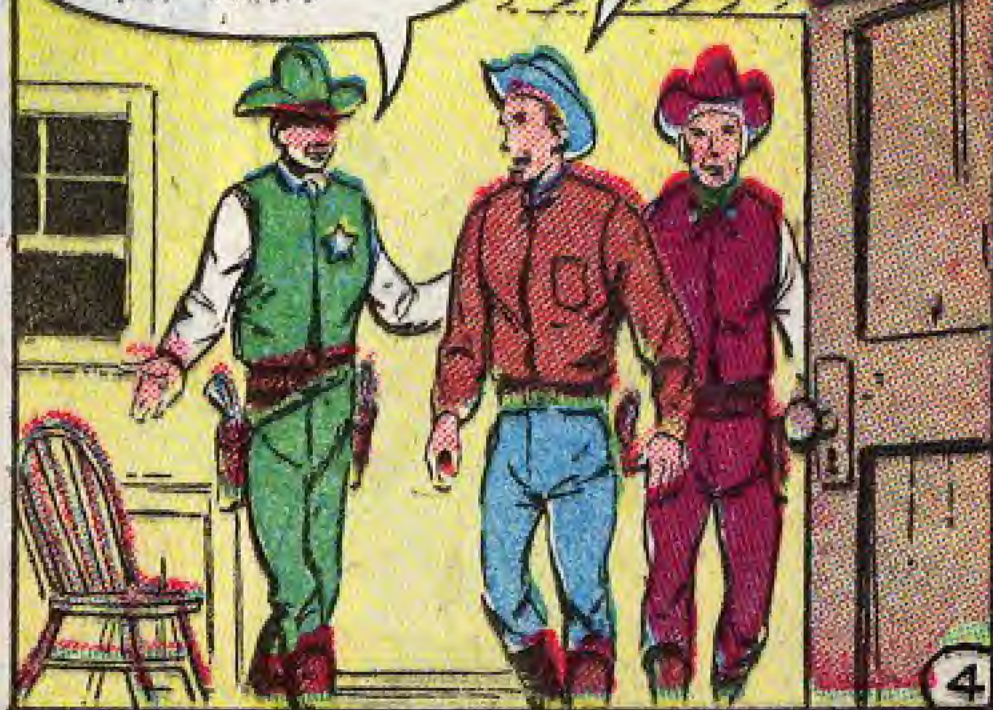
I WAS RIGHT—THEM STRANGERS SURE HAD A PILE OF MONEY WITH 'EM! I'M GOIN' TO HAVE ME A REAL BIG TIME IN BLACKFOOT TONIGHT!

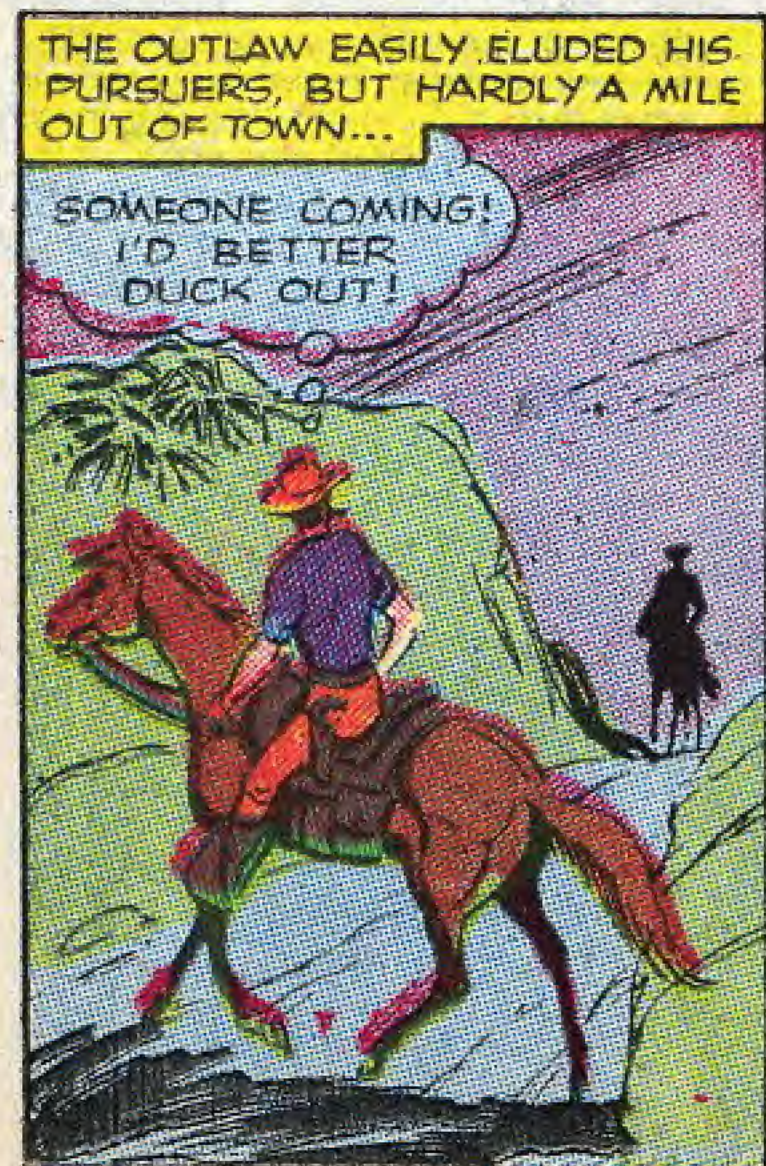
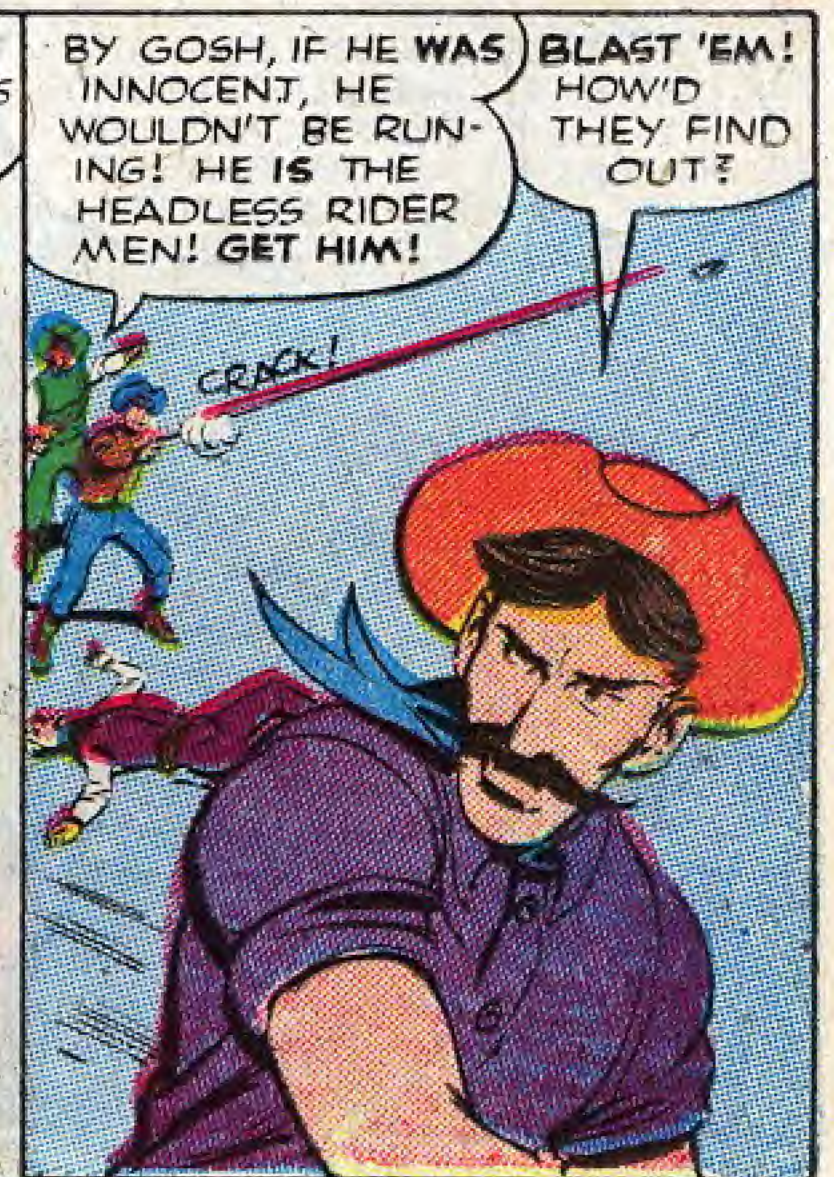


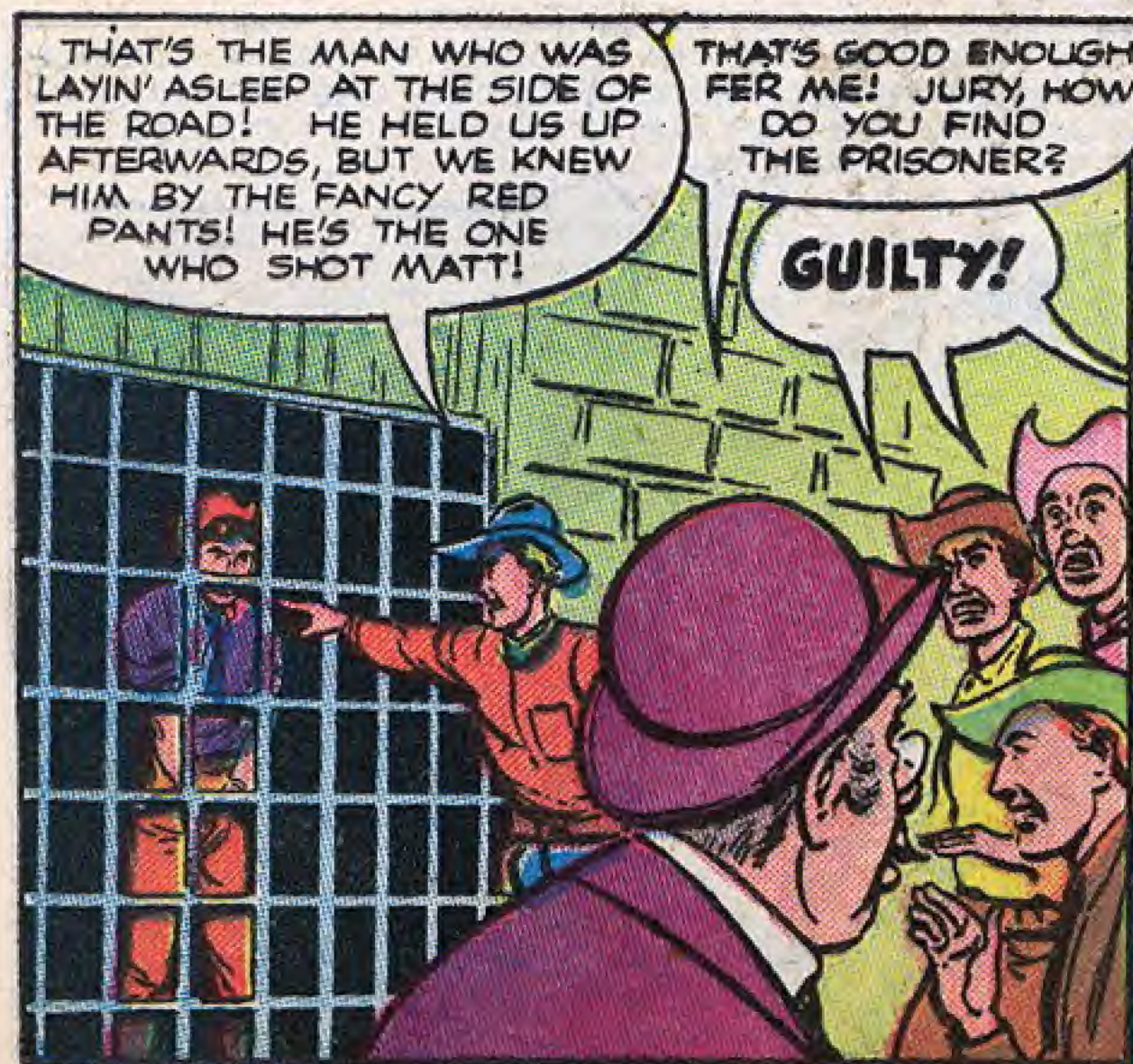
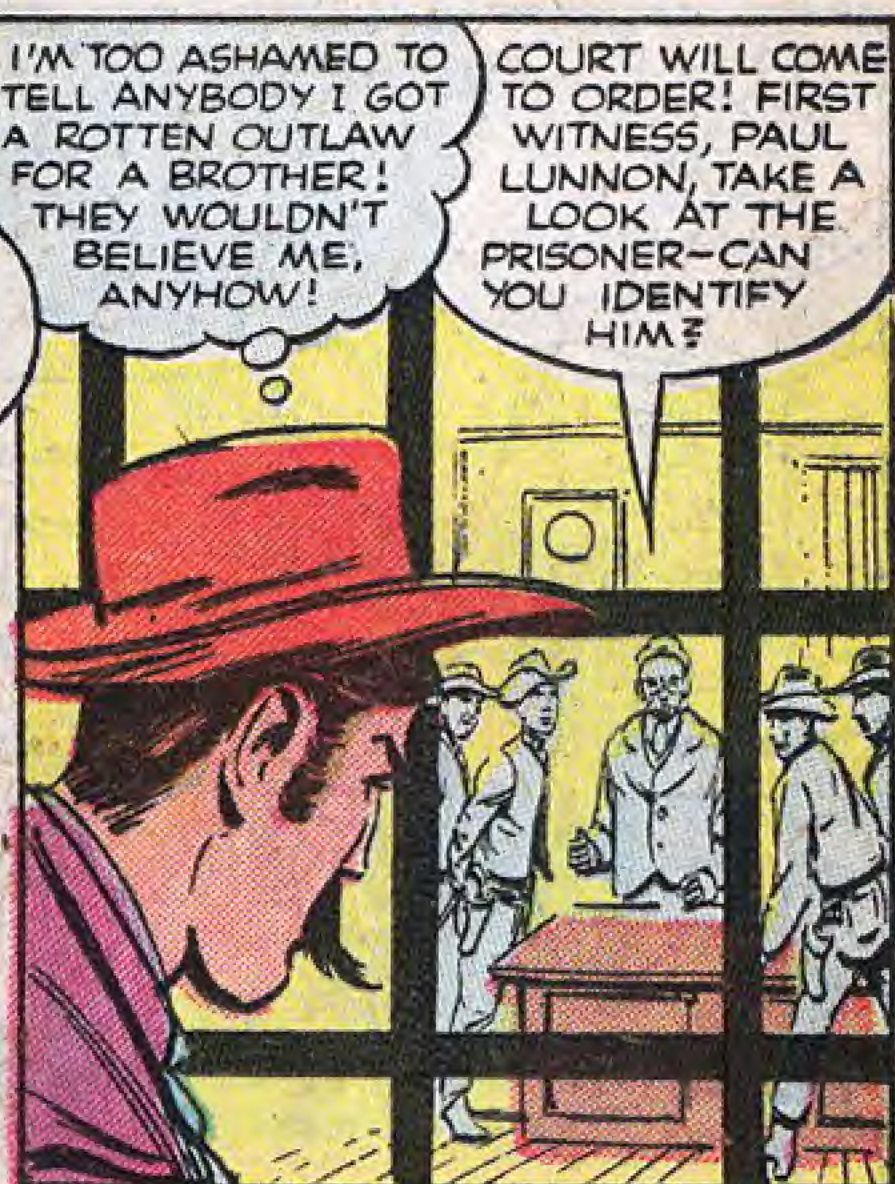
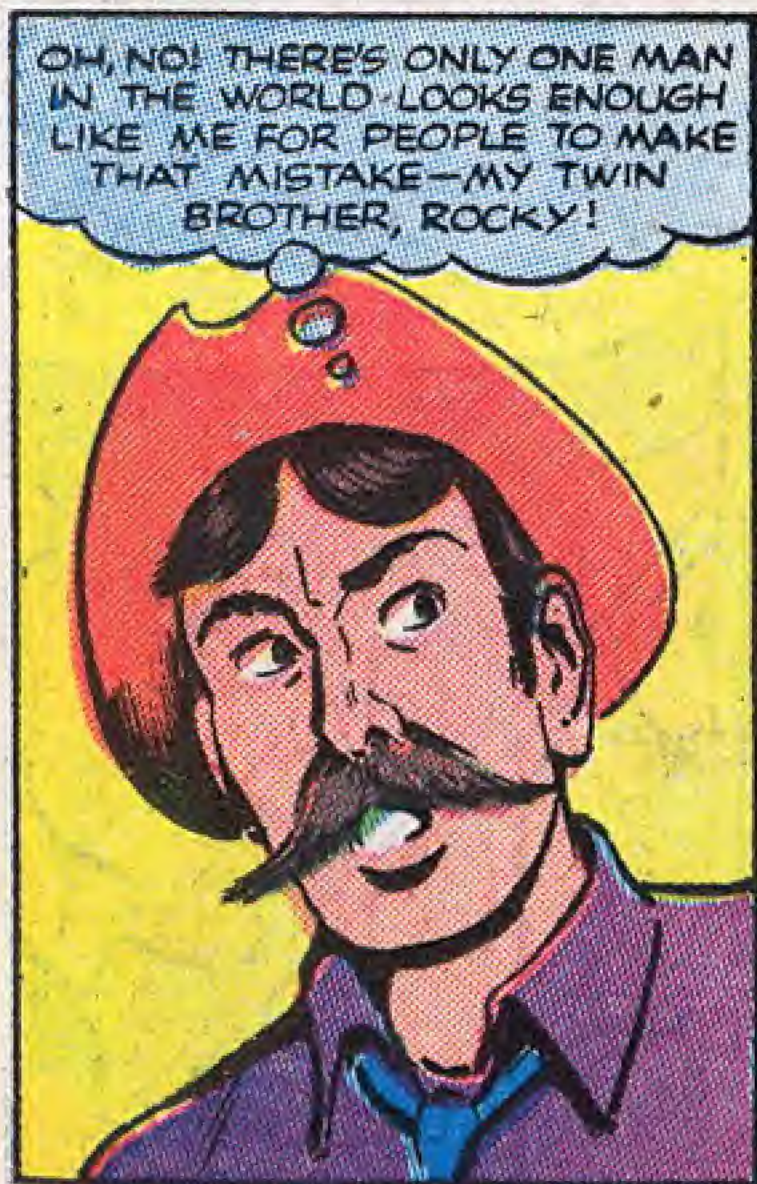
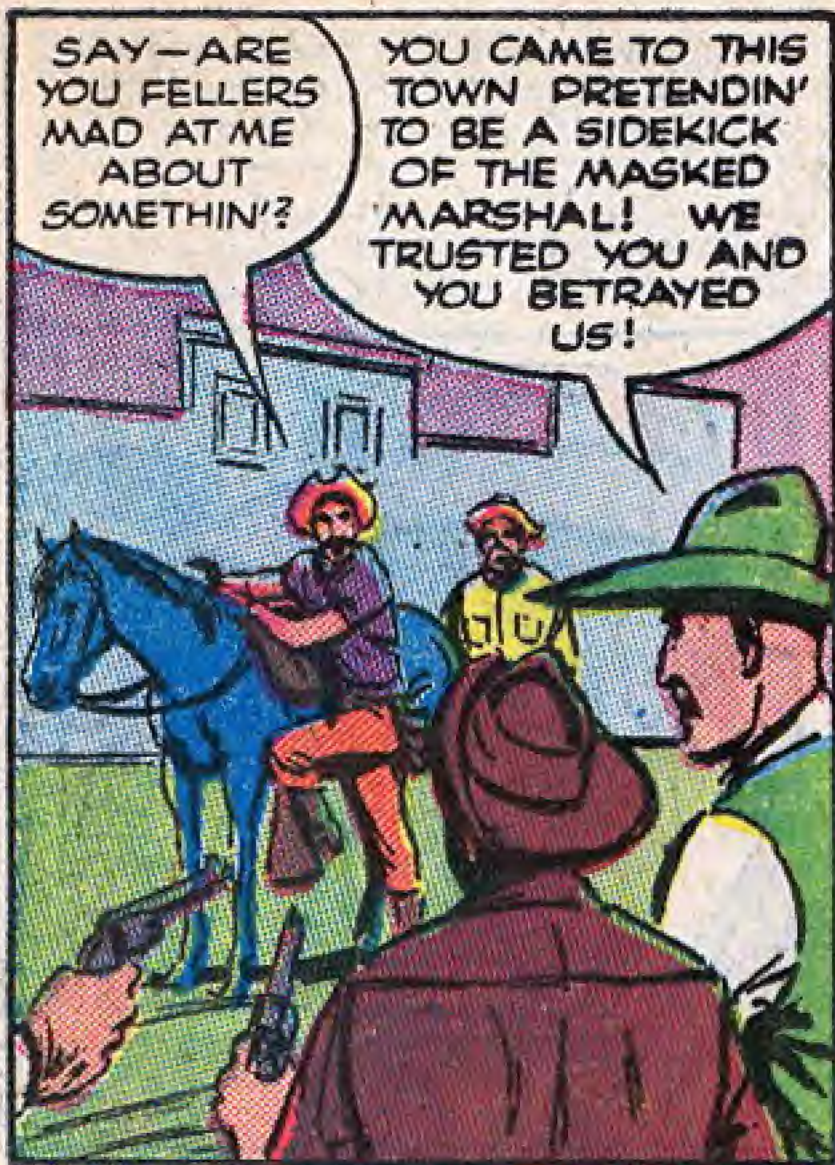
AN HOUR LATER, PAUL AND MATT LUNNON REPORTED TO SHERIFF HANSON IN BLACKFOOT..

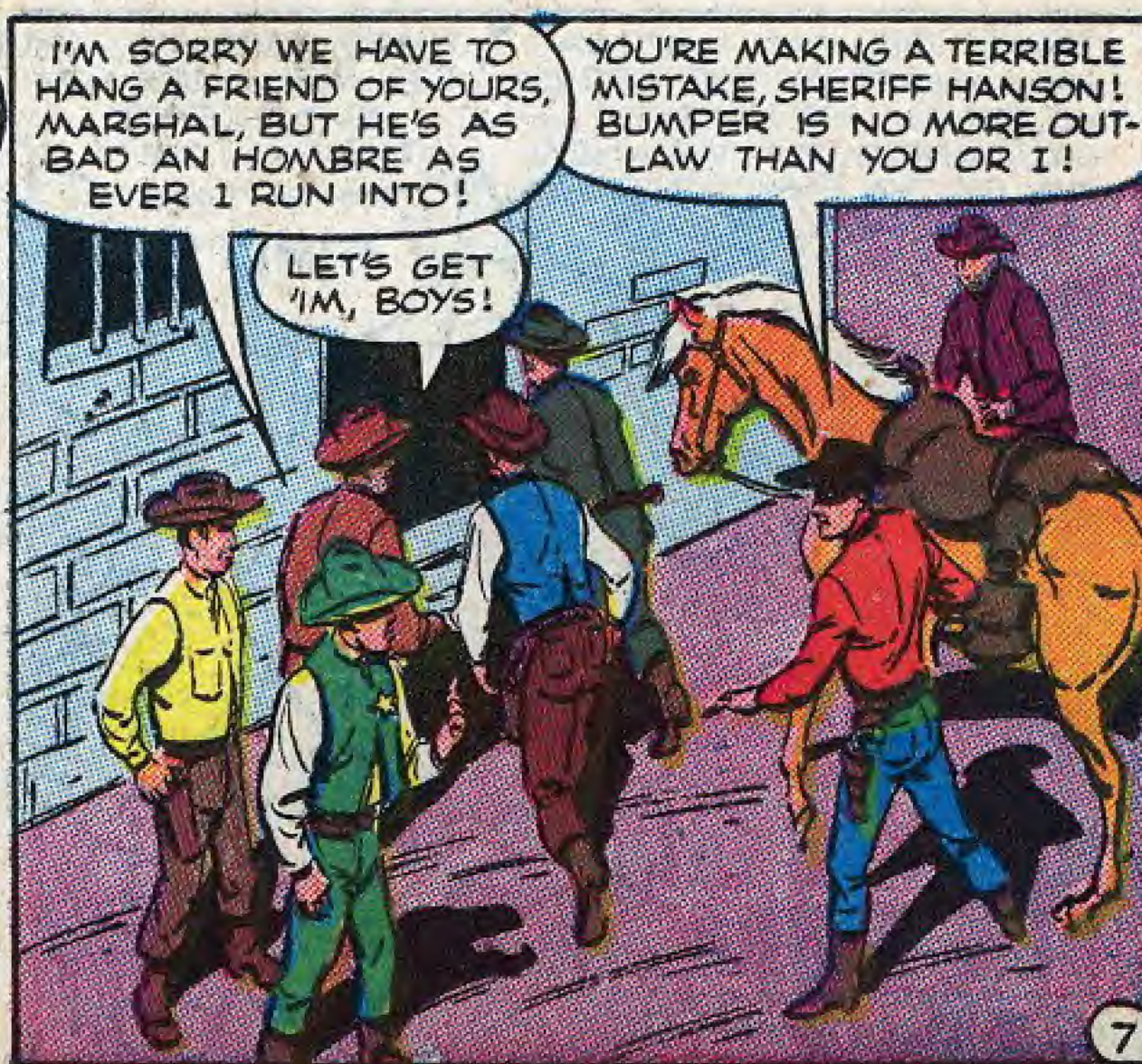
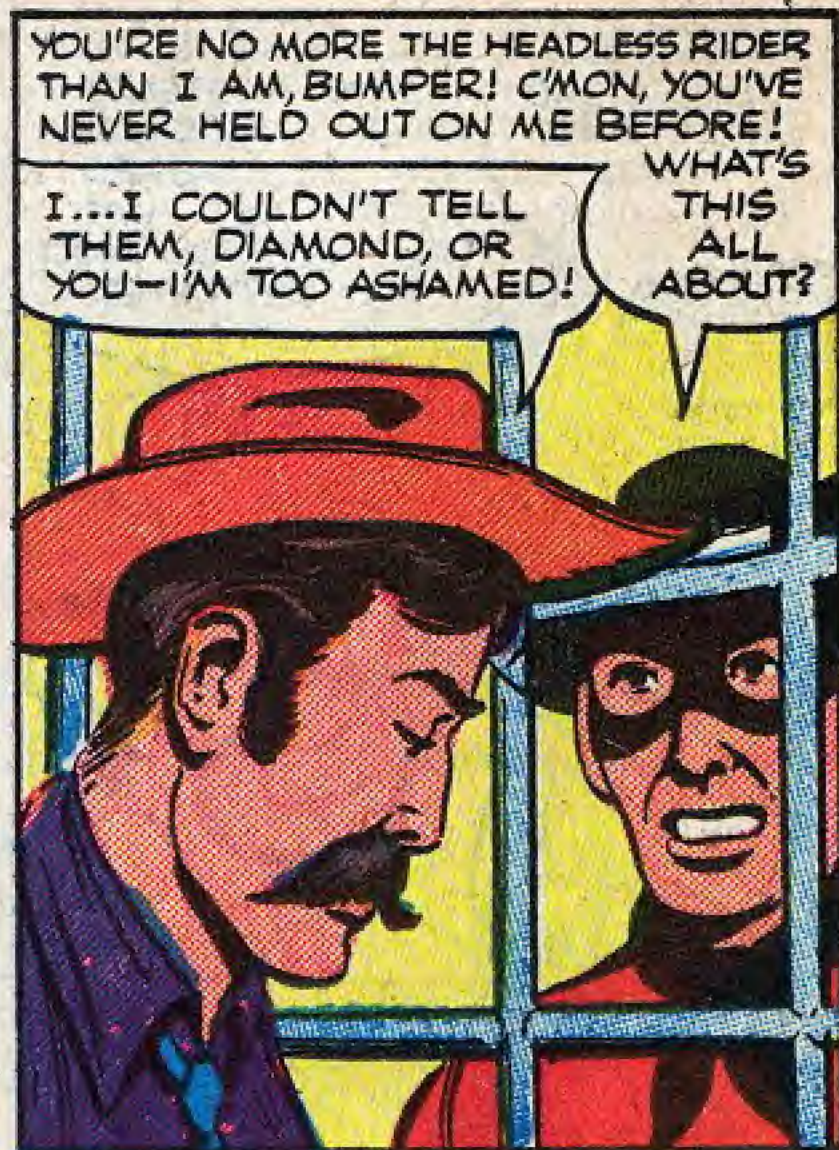
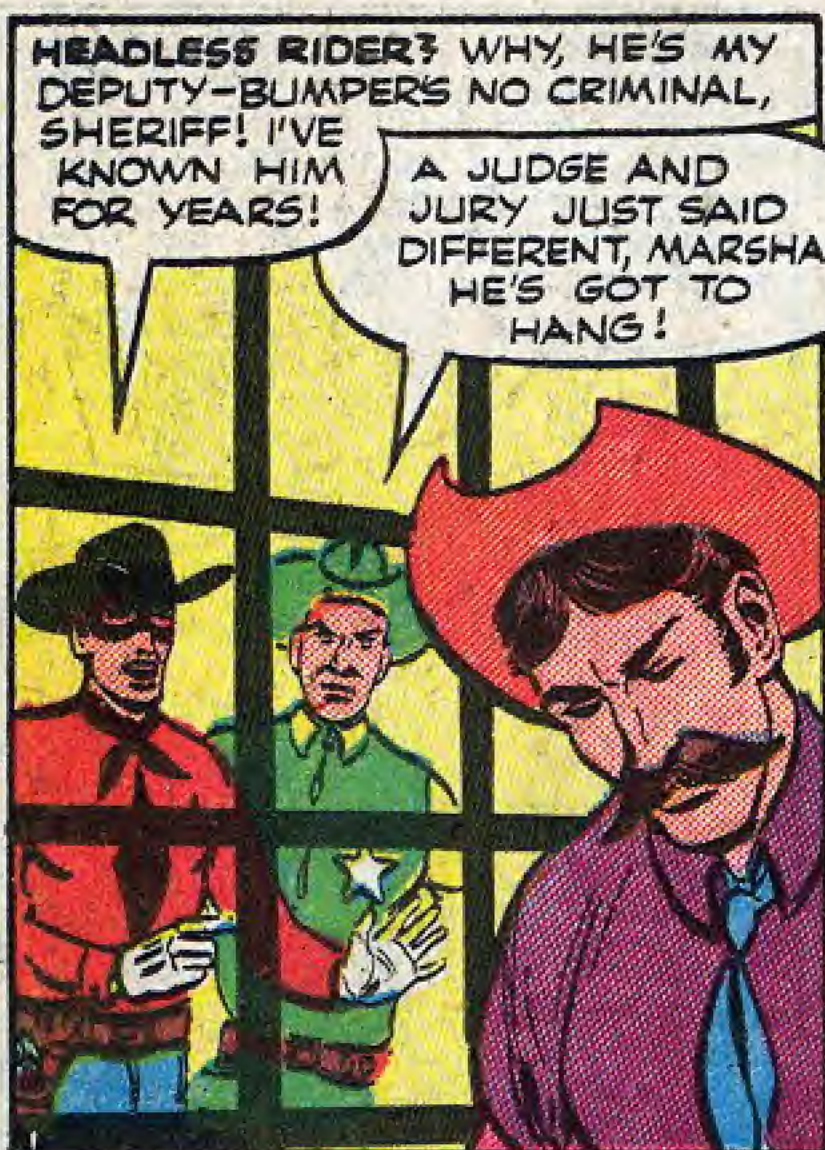
I'VE GOT TO ADMIT I FEEL BETTER MYSELF, KNOWIN' THIS "HEADLESS RIDER" IS FLESH AND BLOOD—HE'S JUST HAD PEOPLE TOO SCARED TO SHOOT STRAIGHT AT HIM!

HE TOOK ALL THE MONEY WE'VE SAVED FOR YEARS—TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS! WE'VE GOT TO GET IT BACK!

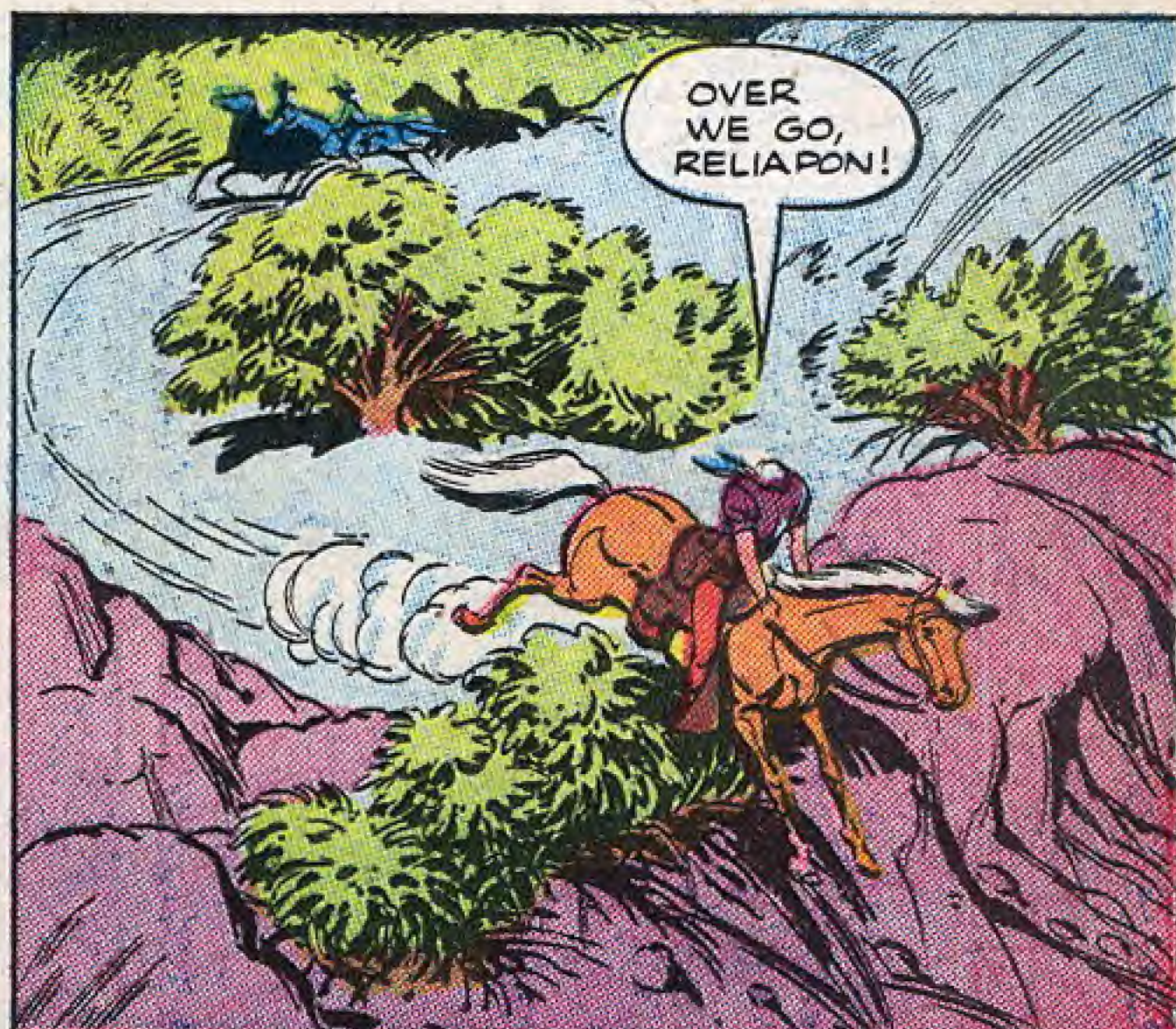
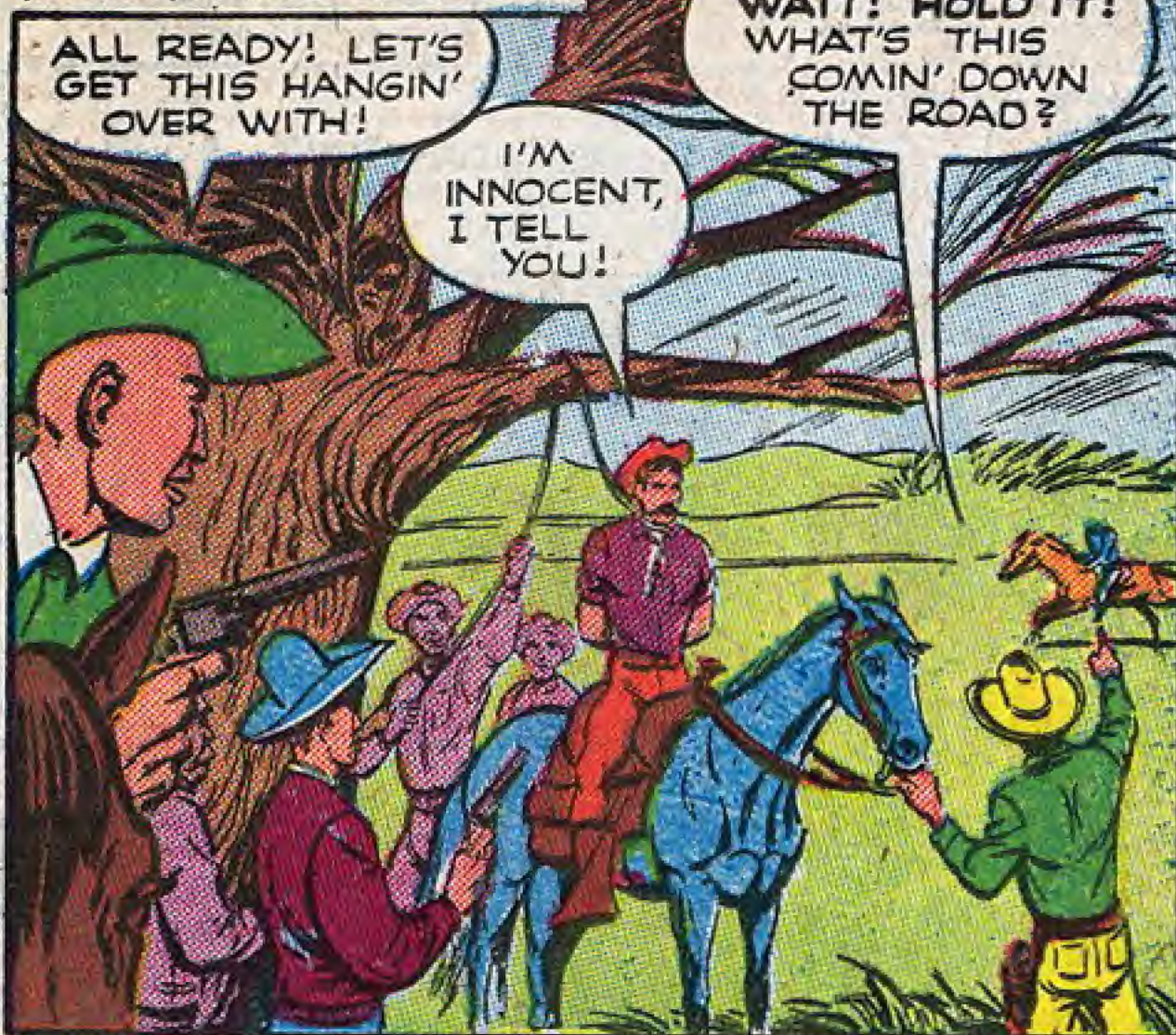








TWENTY MINUTES LATER...



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

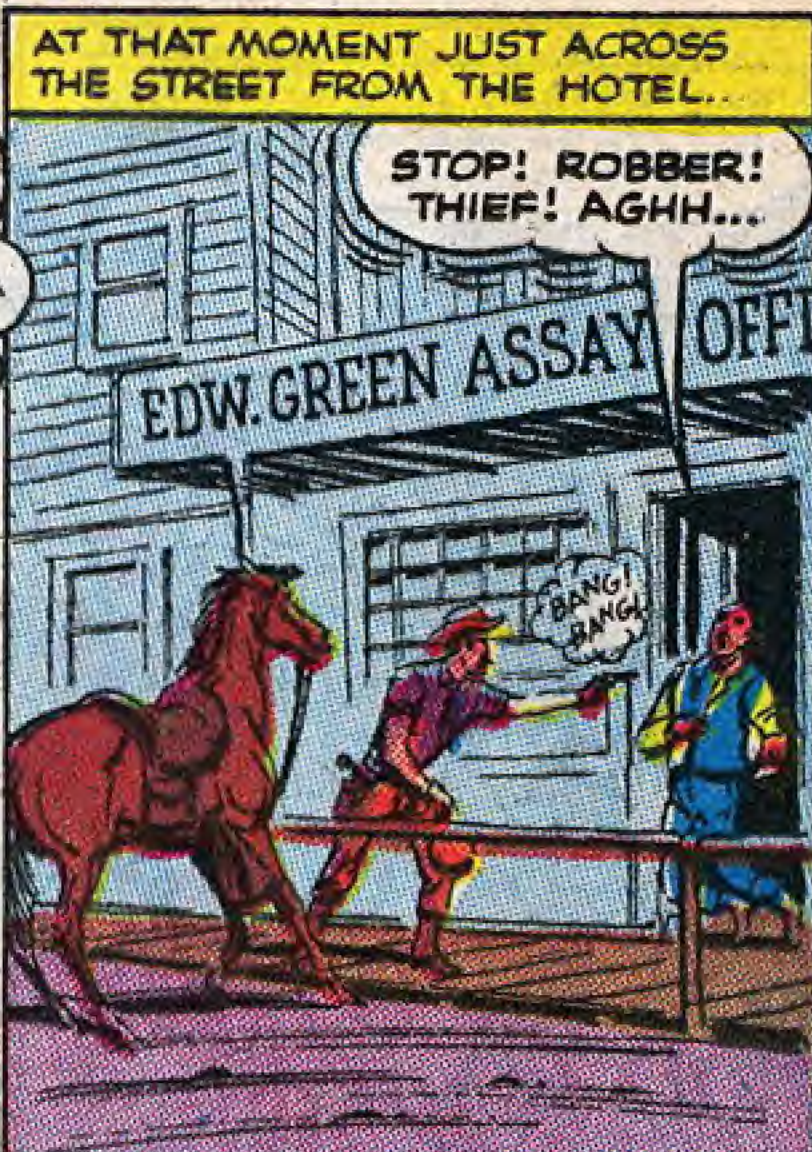


THANKS, MASKED MAN, FOR SENDIN' THE POSSE CHASIN' THEIR OWN SHADOWS! THAT'LL GIVE ME PLENTY OF TIME TO PAY BLACK-FOOT ONE LAST VISIT AND CLEAN OUT THE PLACE!

A SHORT WHILE LATER, IN BUMPER'S HOTEL ROOM...

SURE, I KNEW IT WAS YOU POSIN' AS THE HEADLESS RIDER! YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN RIDE LIKE HE WAS PART OF RELIAPON! THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID!

YOUR OWN CLOTHES SAVED YOU FROM A TIGHT SPOT, BUMPER!



AT THAT MOMENT JUST ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE HOTEL...

STOP! ROBBER! THIEF! AGHH...



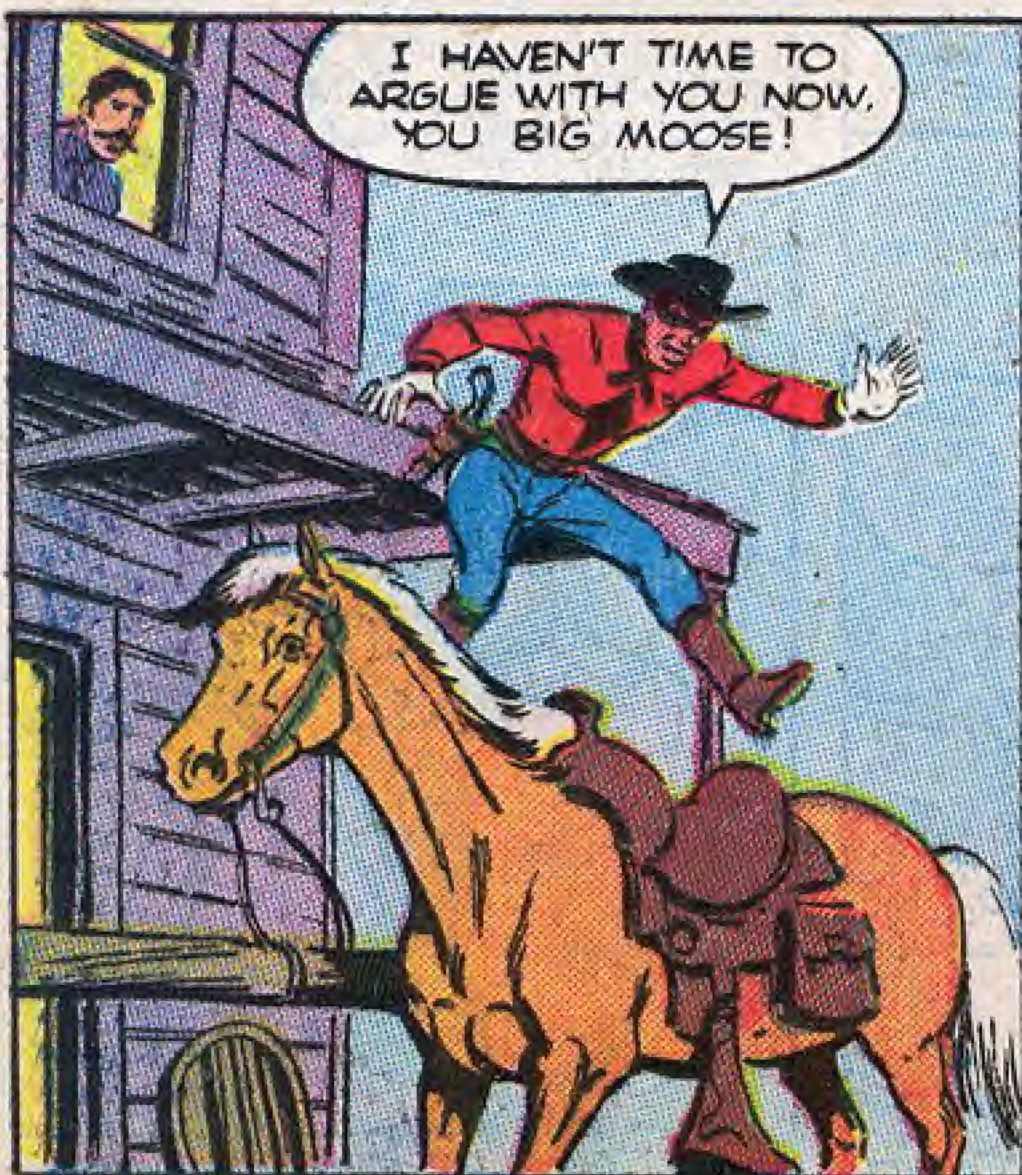
OWW! THAT MASKED HOMBRE MUST BE BLACK DIAMOND-THE MARSHAL MY STUPID BROTHER WORKS WITH!

BUMPER! IF YOU WEREN'T UP HERE, I'D SWEAR IT WAS YOU!



I WOUNDED HIM, BUMPER! I'M GOING AFTER HIM! ARE YOU COMING WITH ME?

I...I CAN'T DIAMOND! IT'S ROCKY, MY BROTHER! MAYBE HE'S NO GOOD, BUT I JUST COULDN'T HURT HIM! I'M RESIGNING AS YOUR DEPUTY! HERE'S MY BADGE!



I HAVEN'T TIME TO ARGUE WITH YOU NOW, YOU BIG MOOSE!



HE'S GOT A GOOD START ON US, RELIAPON, BUT YOU CAN CATCH HIM!



IT WAS HARD GOING FOLLOWING THE DESPERATE OUTLAW INTO THE HILLS, BUT BLACK DIAMOND FOUND A TRAIL...

HE'S BLEEDING PRETTY BADLY FROM THAT WOUND! HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GO MUCH FURTHER AT THIS RATE!



LATER, THAT NIGHT, ROCKY, THE HEADLESS RIDER TOOK HIS LAST RIDE TO BLACKFOOT JAIL! THE FOLLOWING MORNING, HIS WORK FINISHED, BLACK DIAMOND WAS READY TO LEAVE...



Slaughter In Coffeyville

... the Story of the Dalton Gang



Driven by greed and recklessness, and inflamed by a fierce desire to shock the nation, the Dalton brothers set an unequalled record for brutal and daring criminality. Their careers as murderers, bank robbers and train robbers covered a period of less than four years, but it gained them a nationwide reputation. Their path to wealth and glory ended prematurely, however, in a pool of blood on the dusty streets of Coffeyville, Kansas. But ... let's get back to the beginning.

Robert (Bob) Dalton, the youthful leader of the gang, was born in Missouri in 1867, but his parents moved to Coffeyville soon after. Little is known of Bob's early years, but it is recorded that he became a deputy U. S. Marshal in 1888, under assignment to the Indian Territory. (Incidentally, his brother Frank, the only one of the brothers who did not turn to a life of crime, was serving as a U. S. Marshal when he was killed in the line of duty.) Bob left his job a short time after being deputed, though the reasons are not known. Shortly thereafter, he shot down a rival in a love affair, and became an outlaw.

With two of his brothers, Grattan (Grat) and Emmet, he formed a band of horse-thieves, operating in and around Baxter Springs, Oklahoma. Not satisfied with this small time operation, however, the three brothers went to California in late 1890, and in February of 1891, they robbed a Southern Pacific railroad train at Allila, in

Tulare County. Grat was captured, but escaped when he jumped from the train on which he was being taken to jail.

The gang achieved their first notoriety in May of 1891, when they robbed a train at Wharton, in the Oklahoma Territory. This daring exploit by only three men brought to the authorities the realization that an exceptionally capable bandit leader was in the field, and a relentless pursuit was ordered. One of their accomplices in the Wharton robbery was captured, but the Daltons escaped the law. Temporarily sobered by the vigorous efforts to apprehend them, they decided to lay low for awhile.

A little over a year later, in June of 1892, Bob, Grat, Emmet, and Bill Doolin (later to achieve fame in his own right as an outlaw) robbed a train at Red Rock, Oklahoma Territory. Ignoring the hundreds of law enforcement officers out to get them, they recklessly robbed another train at Adair less than six weeks later. Their exploits were now becoming known throughout the entire West, and their names brought fear and dread throughout the Territory.

Frankly admitting that they were out to overshadow the exploits of the James boys, the Daltons, under the leadership of the 25 year old Bob, next planned the most daring bank robbery ever conceived. As Emmet Dalton wrote later, they wanted to do "something that would make the nation gasp. A piece of high and dangerous effrontery." The job they set for themselves was to pull the first daylight bank robbery, and to make it more difficult, they decided to rob two different banks at the same time. The job was to be han-

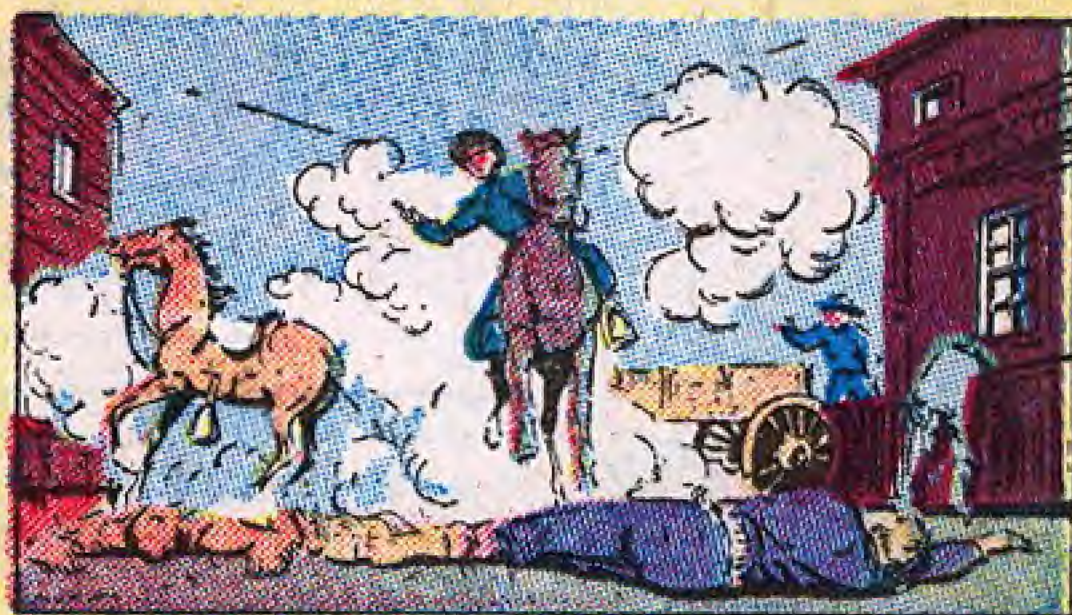


dled by five men — Grat, Bob, Emmet, and two others named Powers and Broadwell. Bob and Emmet were to take the First National Bank of Coffeyville, Kansas, and Grat, Powers and Broadwell were to hold up the Condon Bank.

The night before the robbery, the gang holed up near Onion Creek, a few miles from town. They rode in the morning, timing their entrance so as to arrive just after the banks opened for business. Their first trouble came when they discovered that the main street was being torn up, and the hitching post they had planned to use was temporarily removed. They were forced to tie their horses in a nearby alley, and this later turned out to be about the worse place they could have left them.

Slightly behind schedule, because of the time consumed in finding a place to leave their horses, the five men walked down the alley and onto the main street, carrying their rifles. The first bank they came to was the Condon bank, and Grat, Powers and Broadwell broke off, and entered. Bob and Emmet continued on down the street toward their objective. At first, everything went according to schedule, but a fearless cashier in the Condon bank presented the next obstacle. Coolly lying to the desperate and armed outlaws, the cashier, Charley Ball, told them that the bank safe worked on a time lock, and could not be opened until 9:45, a delay of about five minutes. The outlaws could have checked the safe and discovered the lie, but for some reason they chose to believe him, thus delaying their escape. While they were waiting, they were spotted by several of the local citizens (having lived there for a number of years, the Daltons were well known in Coffeyville) and the word of their robbery was quickly spread. The townspeople went for their guns, and rapidly gathered outside the bank, preparing to give the desperadoes the fight of their lives. The first sign of trouble came when a fusillade of shots burst through the front windows of the Condon Bank, and the three men dropped to the floor to protect themselves. (Later, more than eighty bullets were found in the Condon Bank.)

Meanwhile, Bob and Emmet's plans had gone on smoothly, and they had returned to their horses, carrying the money. They quickly discovered that their comrades were missing, and despite the fact that they could hear the shots and knew that a gunfight was in progress, they returned to the Condon Bank to help. As this was going on, the other men had abandoned their hopes of getting all the money, and had escaped through the rear of the bank. As they all returned to their horses, and prepared to escape, the dam broke.



While the shooting had been sporadic and scattered before, it suddenly became organized, under the brave leadership of several of the townspeople, and a crescendo of fire bellowed down in thunderous crashes upon the five men. The din was terrific. Some of their horses broke and ran down the narrow alley, and the desperadoes found themselves trapped. At one side of the alley was the Isham Brothers Hardware Store, and a veritable fusillade of fire rocketed out of the little shop. Grat fell dead, and Powers was riddled with bullets. The next to fall was Bob, who collapsed against the wall of the dusty alley. Thinking that the others were following, Emmet and Broadwell dragged themselves onto some horses, and though severely wounded, made their escape from town.

Whatever could be said of these ruthless killers, however, they could not be accused of disloyalty. As soon as Emmet Dalton realized that Bob had not escaped, he turned his horse, and rode back through the hail of lead and powdersmoke to Bob's side. He found him, lying in a crumpled heap where he had fallen. Dying, but not yet dead, and Choking with blood, Bob told Emmet to never surrender, fired a wild shot into the air, and died. Dazed with shock, and weak from the effect of his many wounds, Emmet fell unconscious near the dead form of his brother. Broadwell was not destined to escape either, and he died of wounds on the empty prairie.

Four of the townspeople had been killed, and three wounded, but the Dalton gang was finished forever. Emmet, though severely wounded, was later tried and convicted, and served a long prison term. The Daltons had wanted fame and excitement, and it must be admitted that they were bold, courageous, reckless and daring, but their exploits brought them little wealth and an early grave. They had succeeded in becoming famous, and had terrorized the West for a few short years, but death was their final reward.

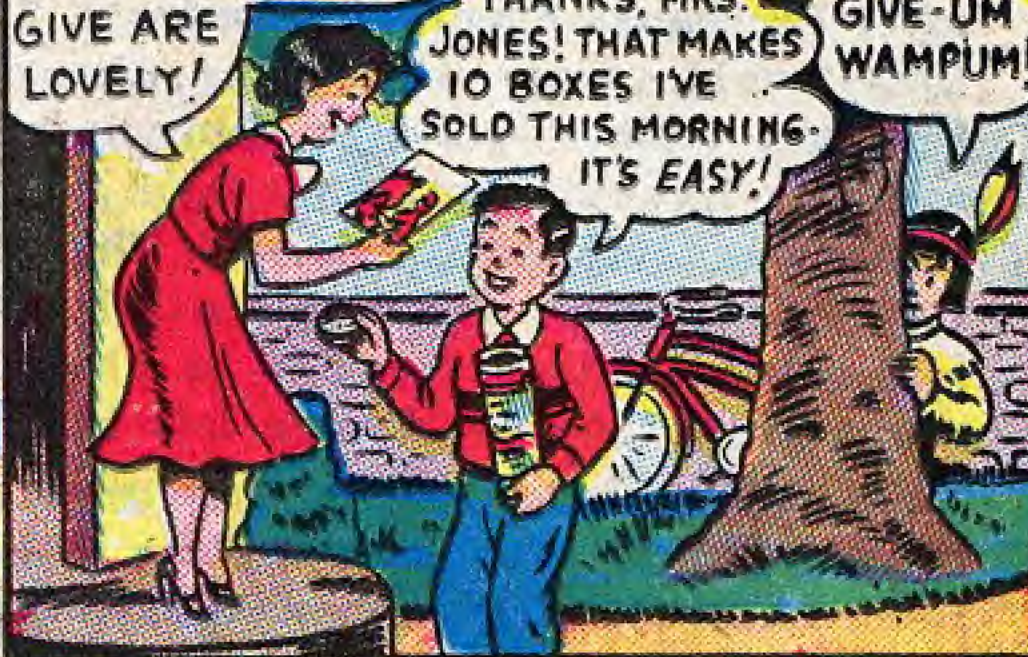
THE END

WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!



UGH!
PALE
SQUAW
GIVE-UM
WAMPUM

THANKS, MRS. JONES! THAT MAKES 10 BOXES I'VE SOLD THIS MORNING. IT'S EASY!



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SENDING IN
THAT COUPON
RIGHT AWAY!

ME TOO! I WANT
A RADIO!



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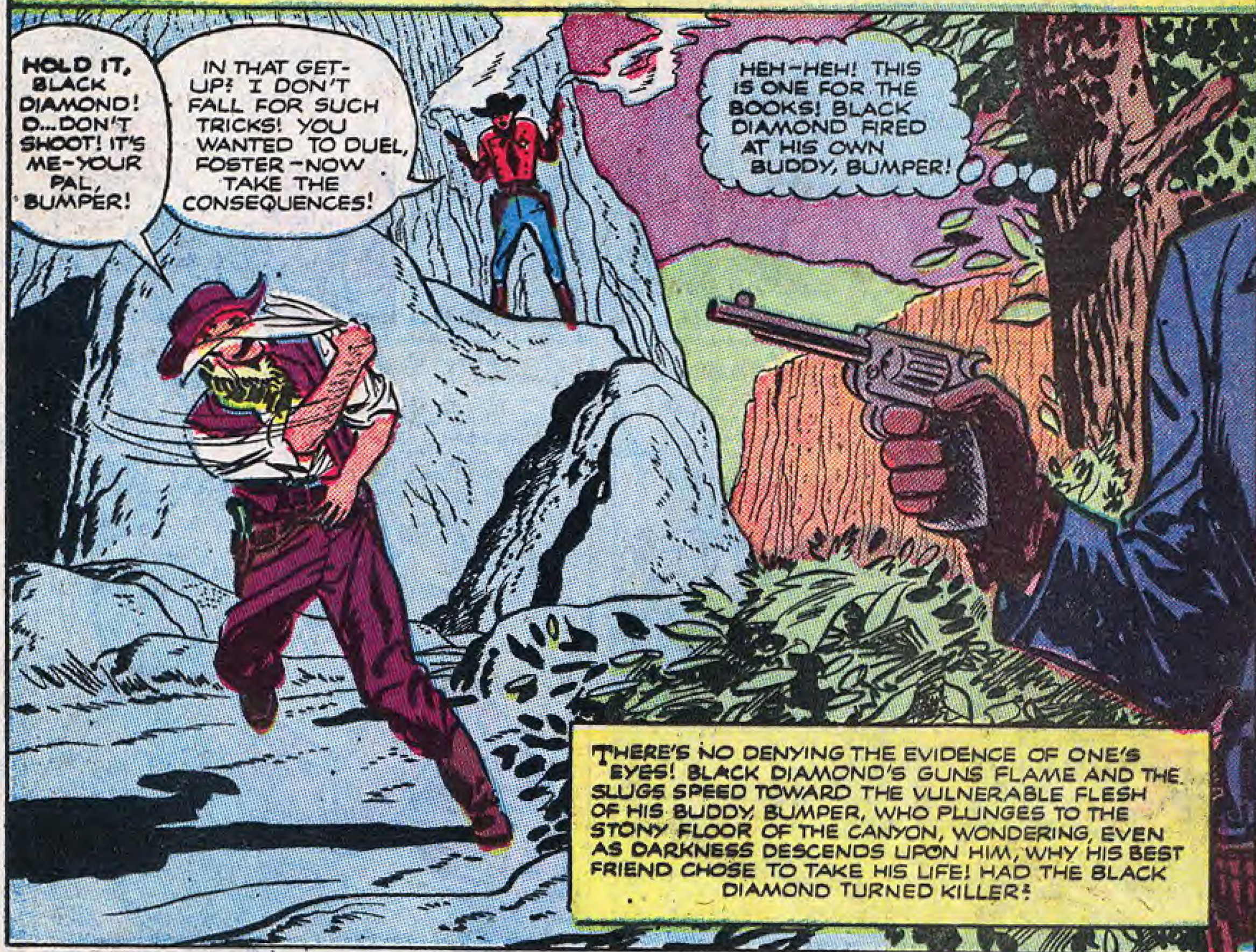
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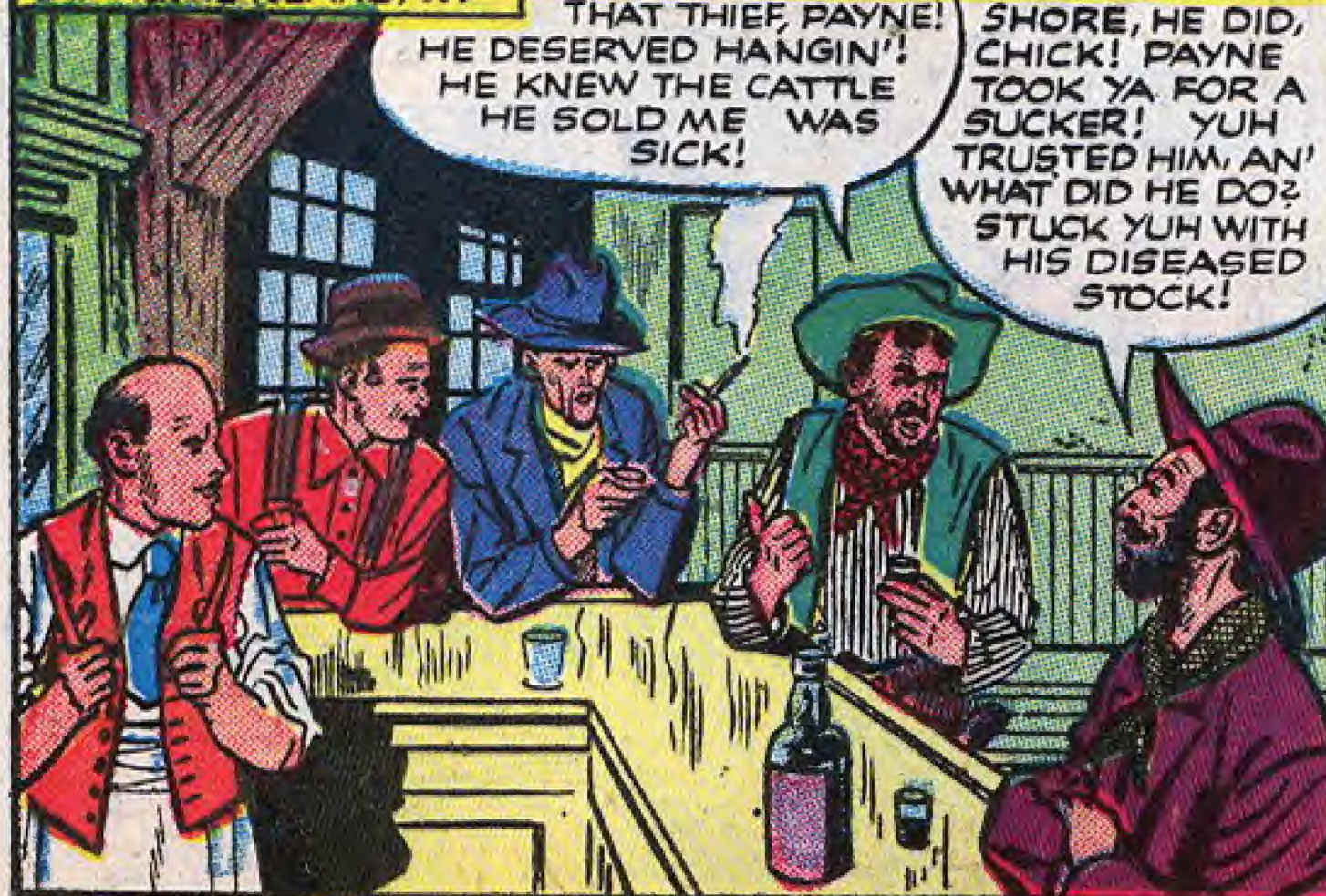
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BLACK DIAMOND

IN "THE SINISTER SAGA OF THE RATTLESNAKE PIT"



THERE CAN BE NO IMMEDIATE ANSWER TO SUCH A QUESTION—FOR EVERY TRAGEDY HAS ITS BEGINNING! AND THIS TRAGEDY BEGAN WHEN CHICK HAGSTROM BEGAN TO GET DRUNK, AS USUAL, AT THE EL DORADO SALOON...BILL PAYNE, A CATTLEMAN WHO HAD RECENTLY SOLD HIM SOME CATTLE, WAS STANDING NEARBY...



DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOIN' TO STAND FOR IT, HAGSTROM! YUH AIN'T GOIN' TO LET OLD MAN PAYNE MAKE A FOOL OUTTA YUH!

NO! I WANT JUSTICE! I WANT MY DOUGH BACK! I WANT PAYNE HANGED! WHO'S GOIN' TO HELP ME STRING HIM UP?





JUST A MINUTE, BOYS! IF THERE'S ANY HANGIN' TO BE DONE, LET THE MARSHAL DO IT! THIS TOWN'S SEEN ENOUGH LYNCHIN'!

QUIET, CHICK! YOU'RE DRUNK AN' SAYIN' OUT LOUD WHAT YUH SHOULDN'T! PEOPLE ARE AGIN' LYNCHIN'! BETTER SEE WHAT SATISFACTION YUH CAN GET OUTTA THE BLACK DIAMOND BEFORE YUH DO ANY NECK STRETCHIN' ON YOUR OWN!



OKAY! WE'LL SEE WHAT CHIC! THE BLACK DIAMOND HAS TO SAY! GO FETCH HIM, ED, WHILE I BRING MY WAGON AROUND THE SIDE OF THE SALOON!



MINUTES LATER, AS THE BLACK DIAMOND IS SUMMONED..

THERE THEY ARE! THET'S THE LOUSY CATTLE OLD MAN PAYNE SOLD ME!

THEY'RE DEAD, ALL RIGHT, HAGSTROM BUT YOU CAN'T TELL ME YOU COULDN'T TELL SICK STOCK FROM HEALTHY STOCK WHEN YOU BOUGHT 'EM! YOU'VE GOT TOO MUCH EXPERIENCE TO BE TAKEN!



YOUR STOCK MUST HAVE DRUNK BAD WATER OR SOMETHING AND DIED! NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT THE RAP ON PAYNE! IT'S NO DICE, HAGSTROM! THE DISEASE PROBABLY OVER-TOOK THESE CATTLE AFTER THE SALE!

DID YOU HEAR HIM? HE'S ON PAYNE'S SIDE! HOW MUCH DOUGH IS PAYNE PAYIN' YUH TO BACK HIM UP?



YOU DRUNKEN SOT! ANYONE BUT YOUR LOAFER BUDDIES CAN SEE THROUGH YOUR MISERABLE SCHEME! DON'T ACCUSE ME OF BRIBERY AGAIN, OR I'LL PUNCH YOUR HEAD OFF!

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE LAW INTO OUR OWN HANDS!



DON'T REACH FOR THAT GUN!



THERE'S BEEN TOO MUCH LYNCH TALK IN THIS TERRITORY! AND TO MAKE IT STOP, WE'VE PUT TEETH IN THE LAW! ANY LYNCHER WILL BE HANGED! REMEMBER THAT!

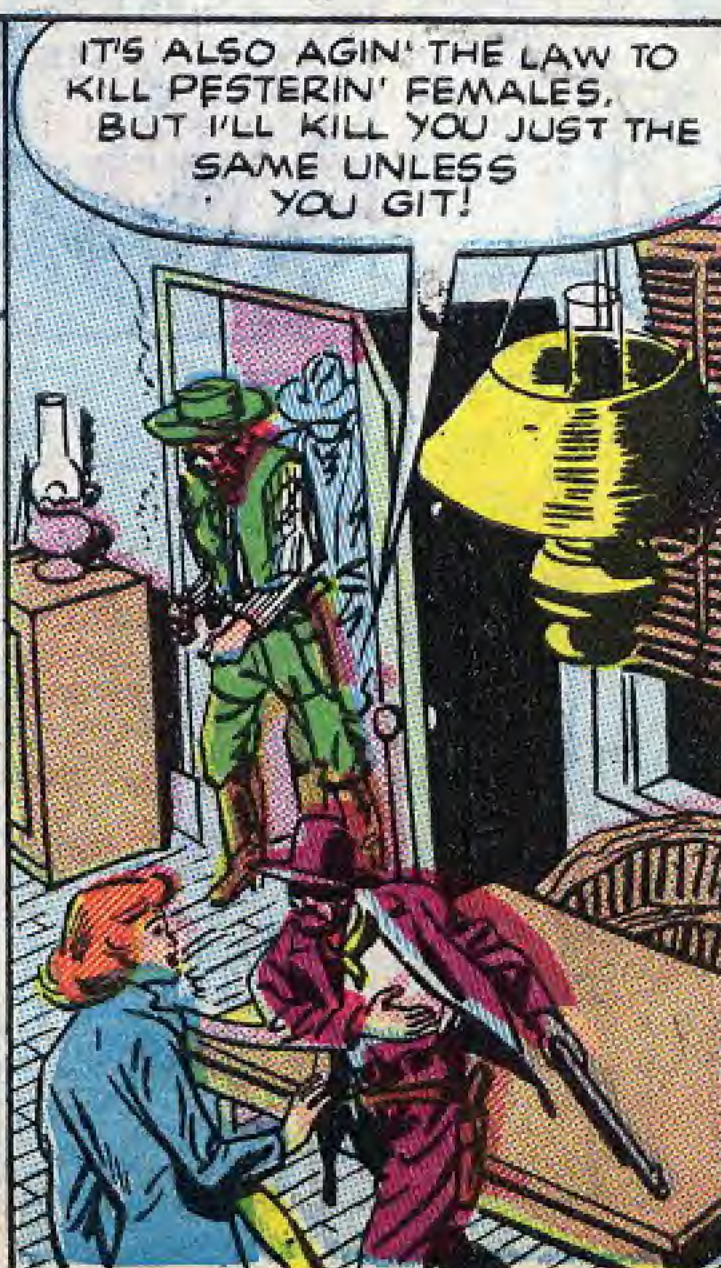
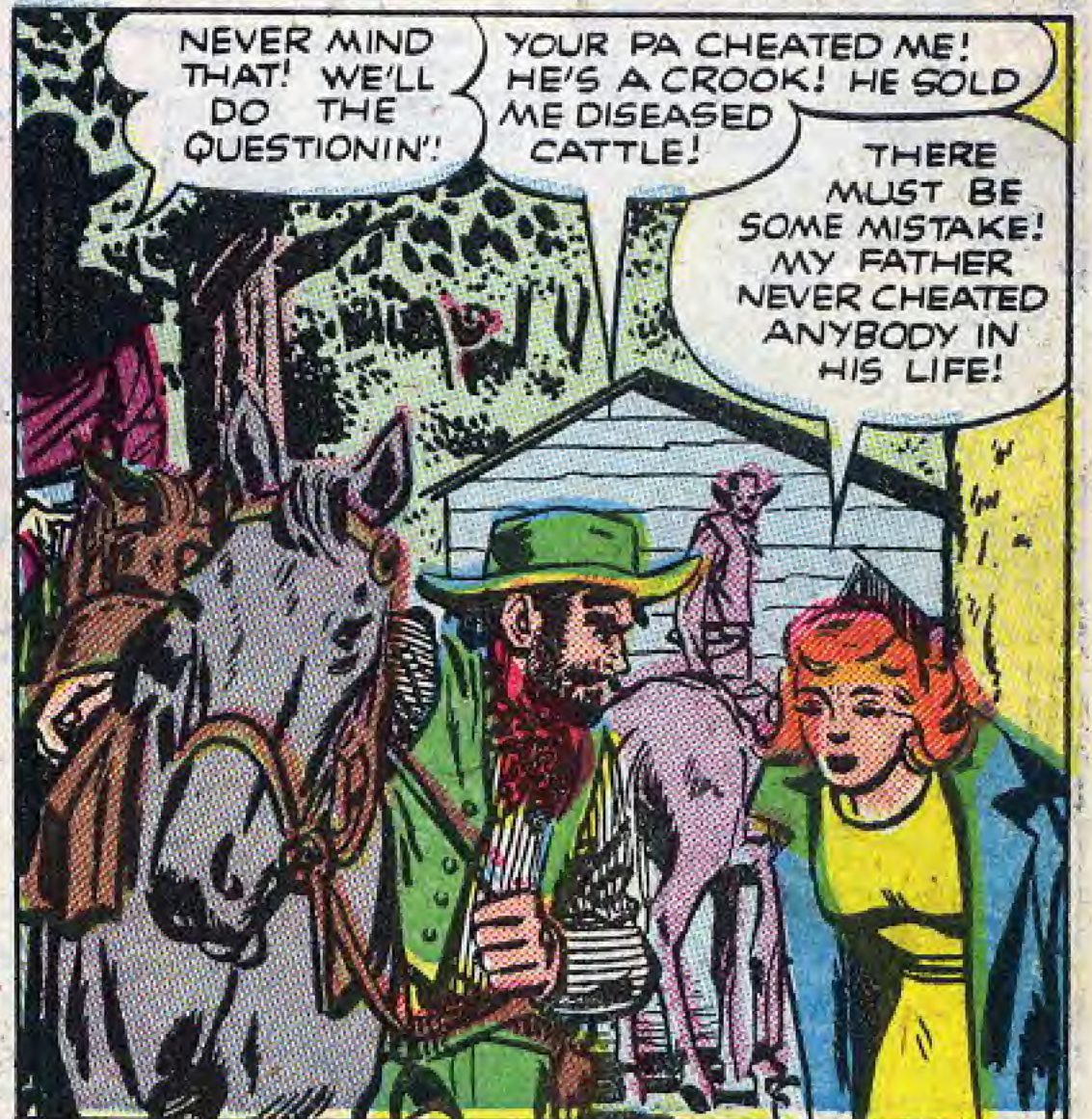
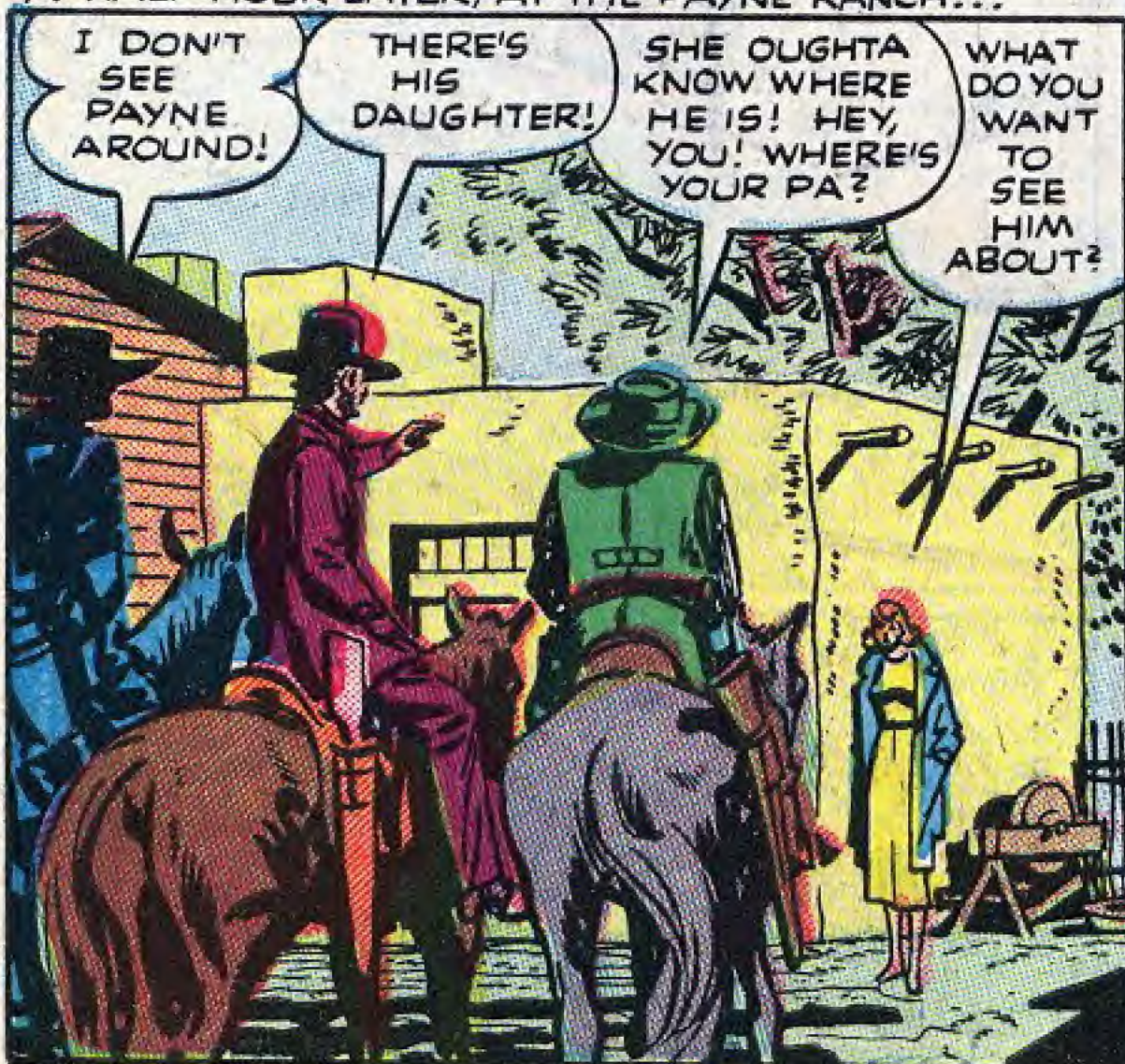


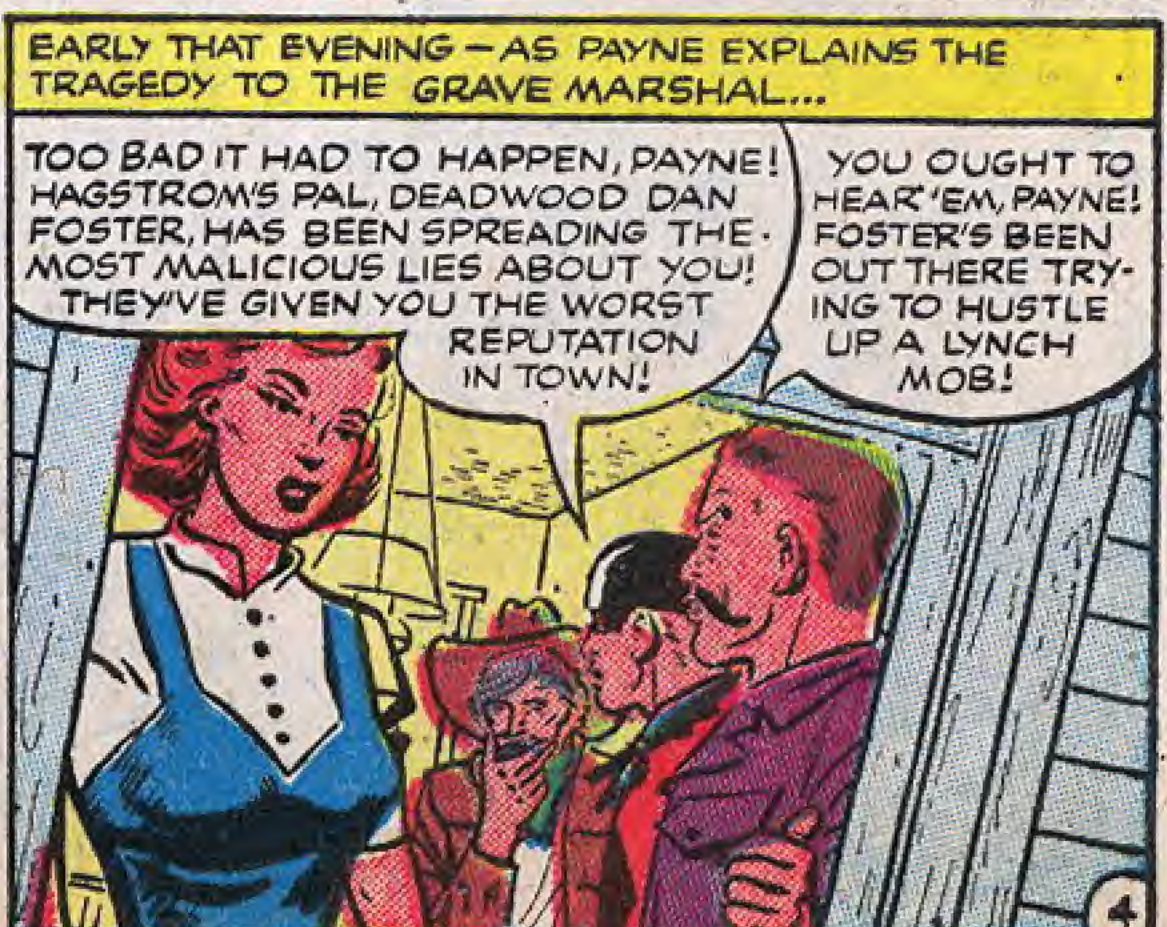
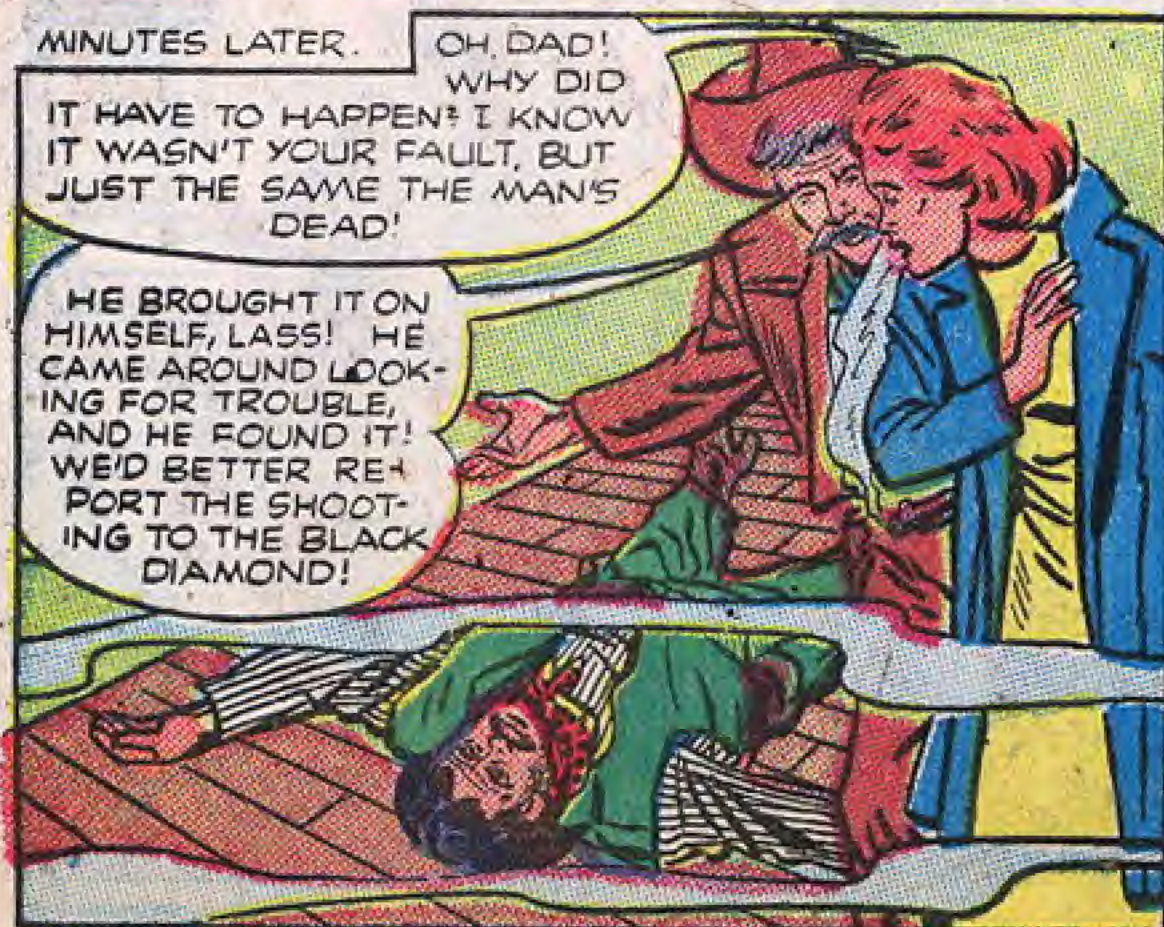
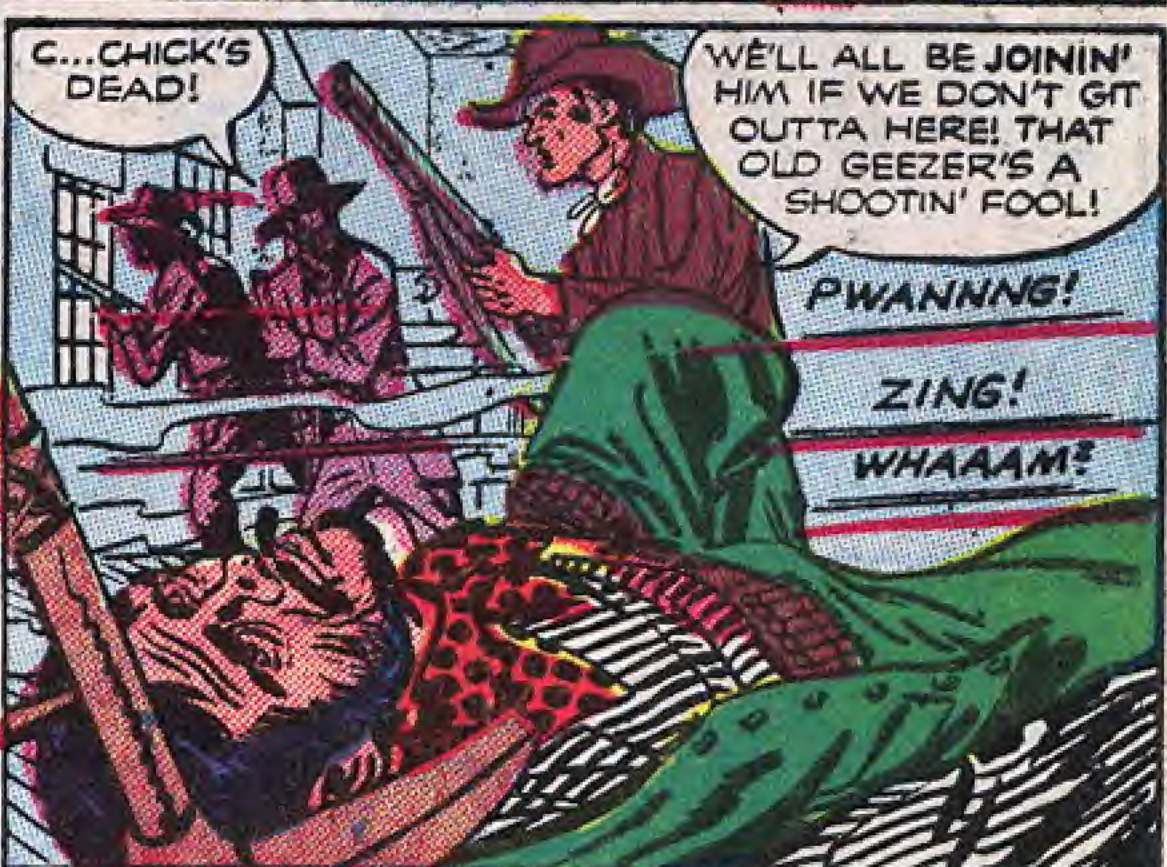
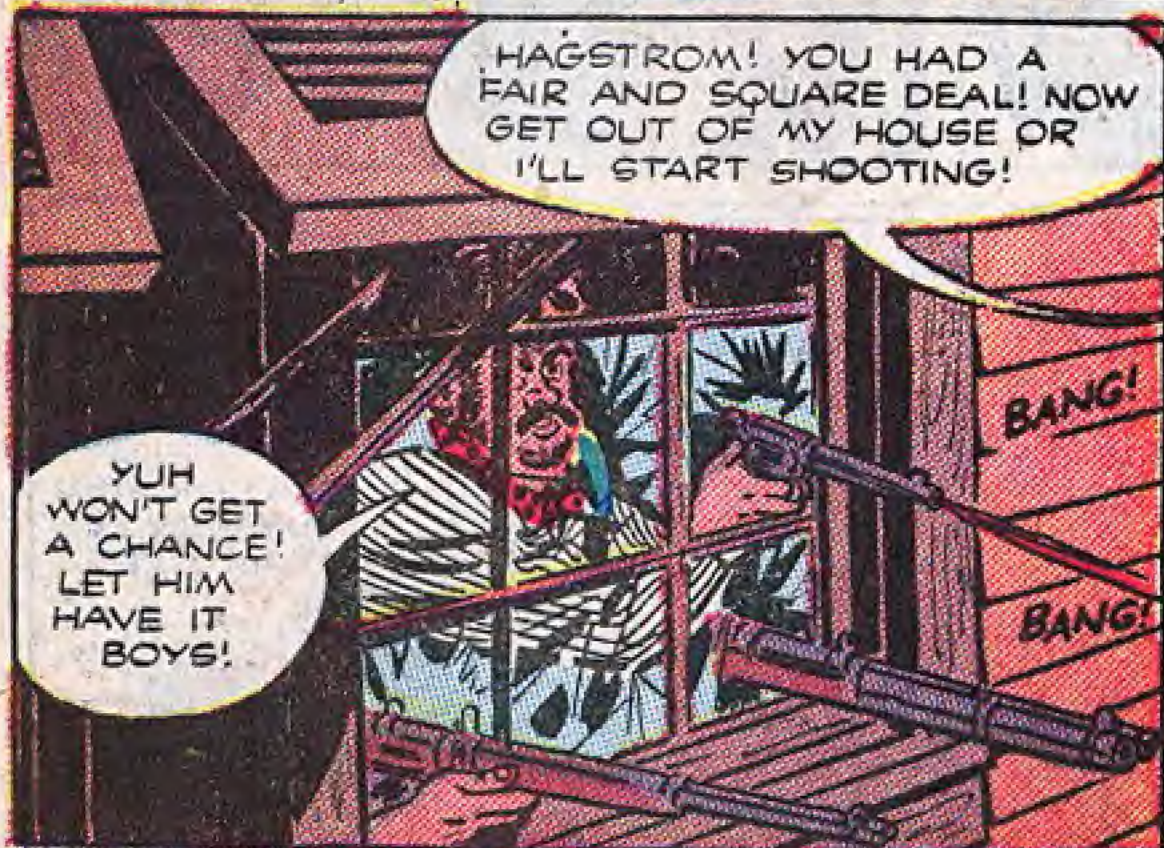
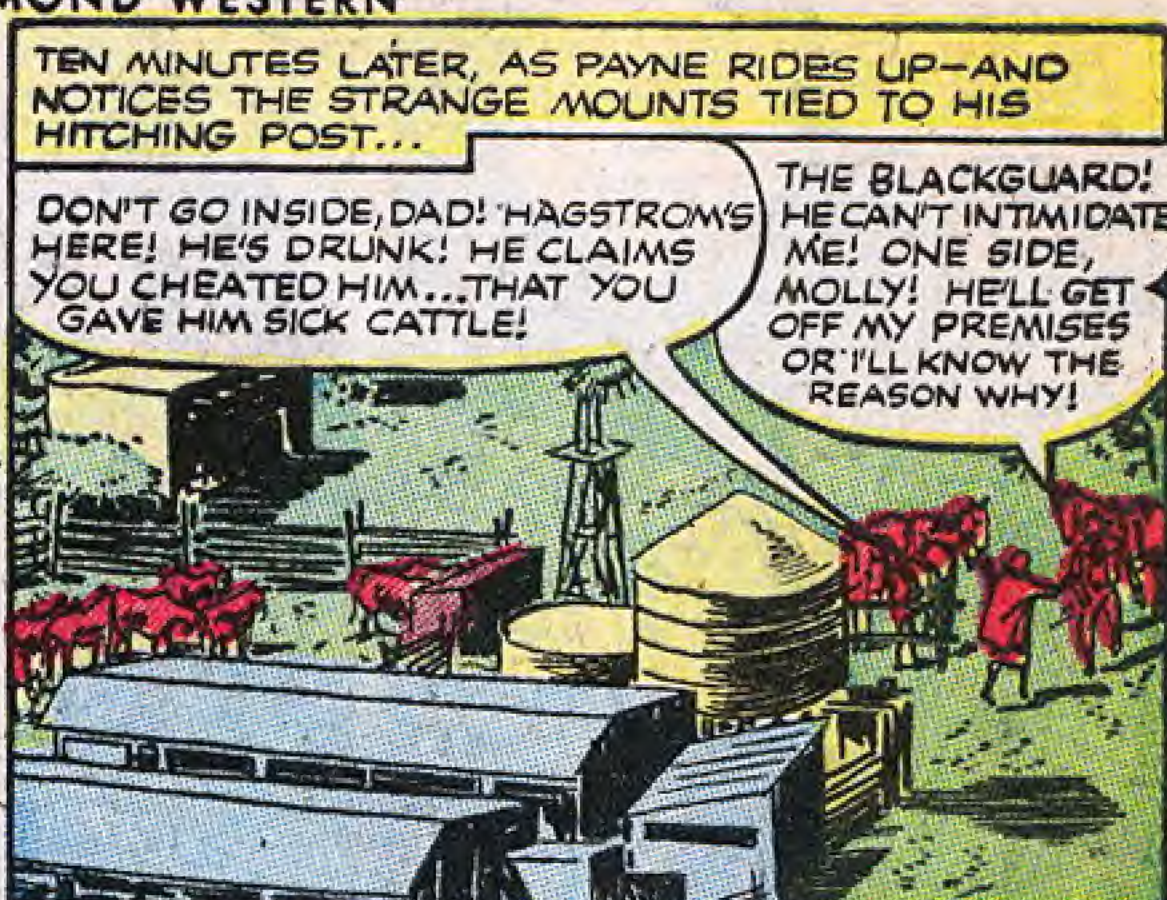
THET TIN STAR AIN'T DICTATIN' TO ME! I'M GOIN' TO OLD MAN PAYNE'S RANCH AN' TAKE THE DOUGH OUTTA HIS HIDE!

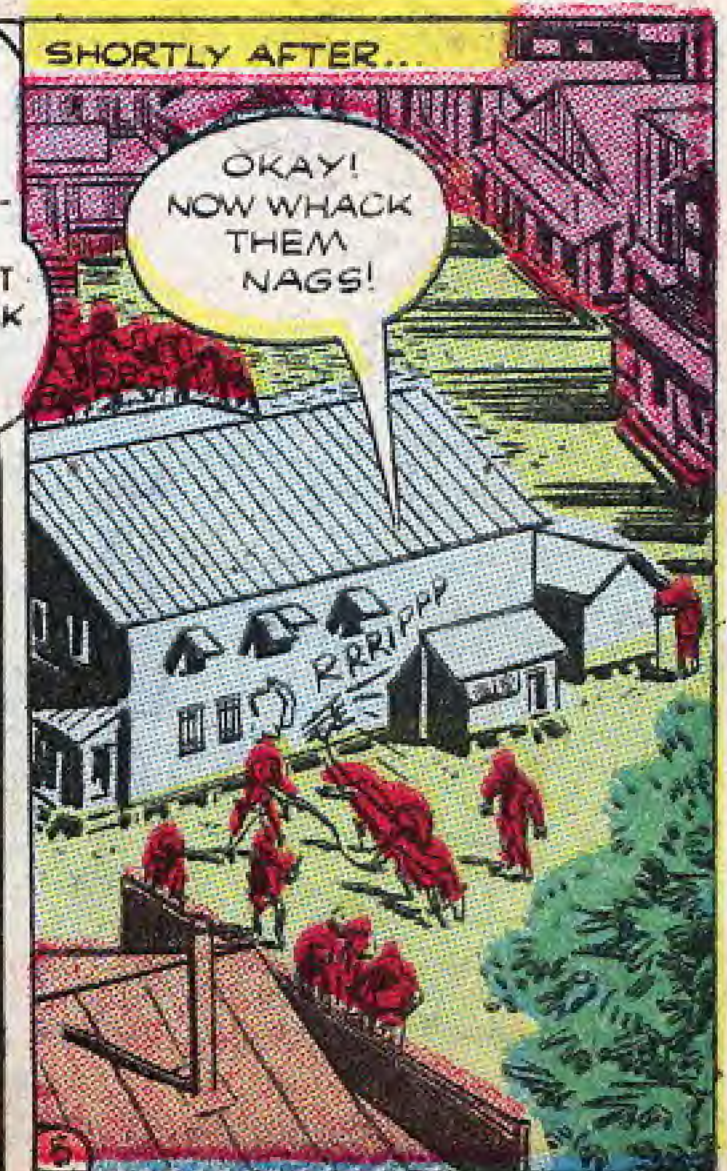
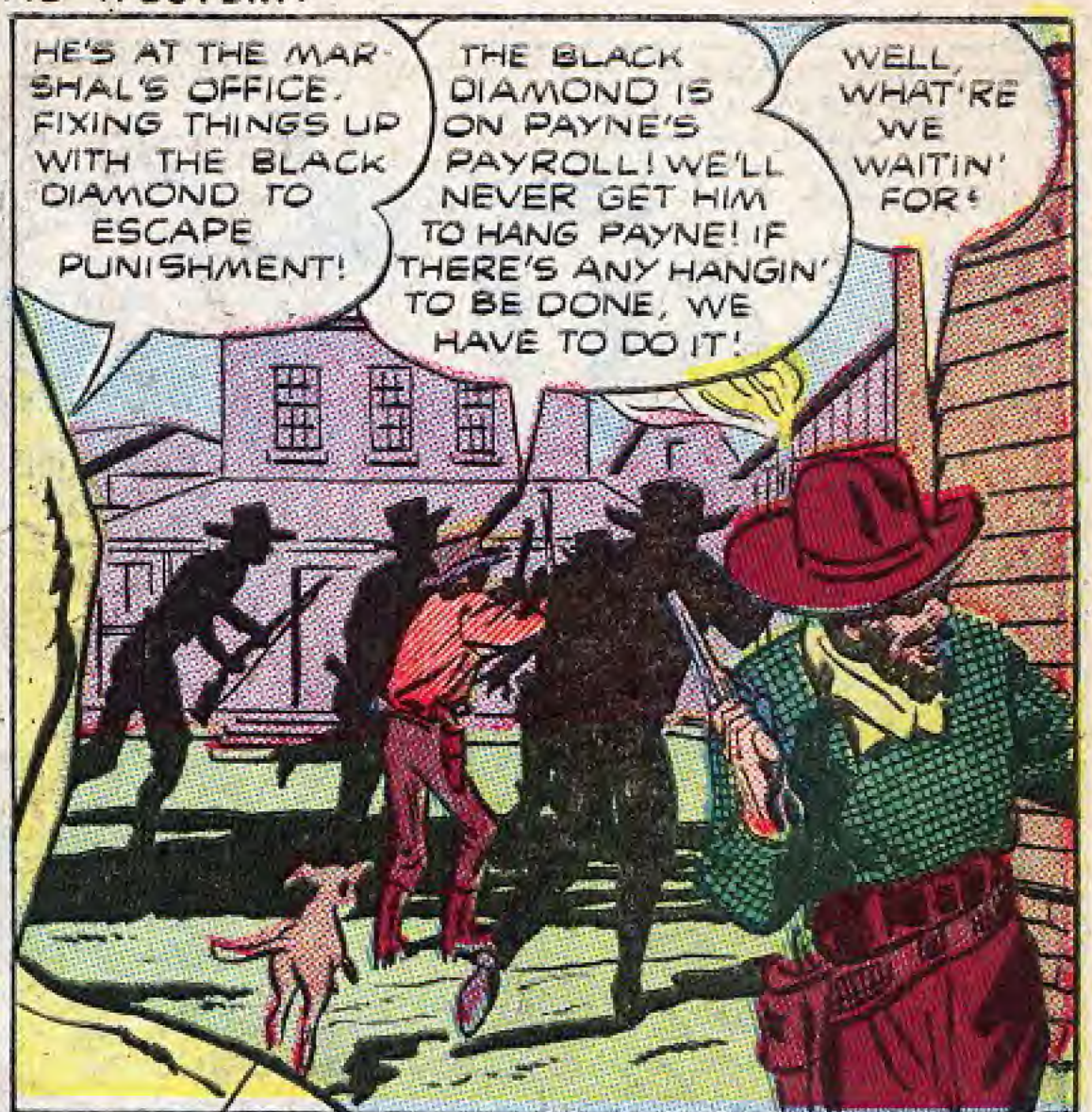
WAIT, CHICK! LOOK AT THEM SIGNS! THE BLACK DIAMOND WASN'T KIDDIN'!



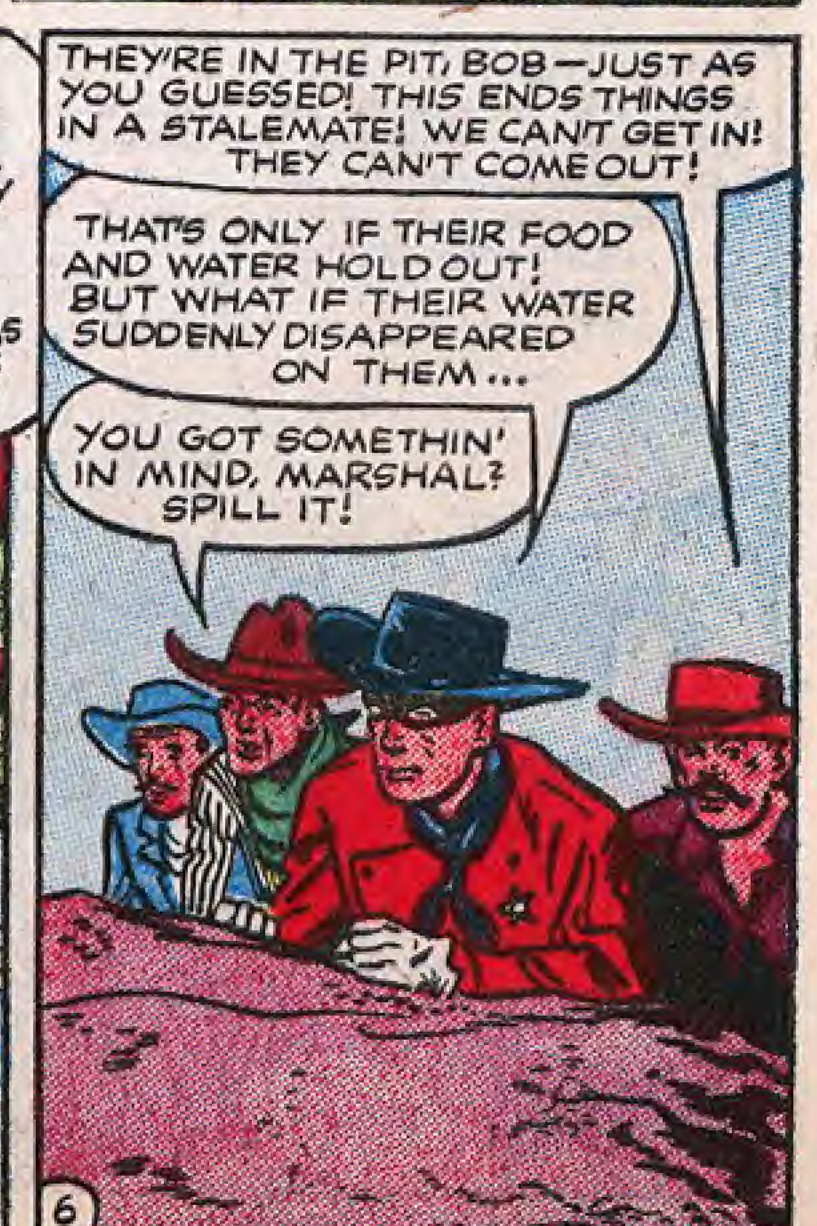
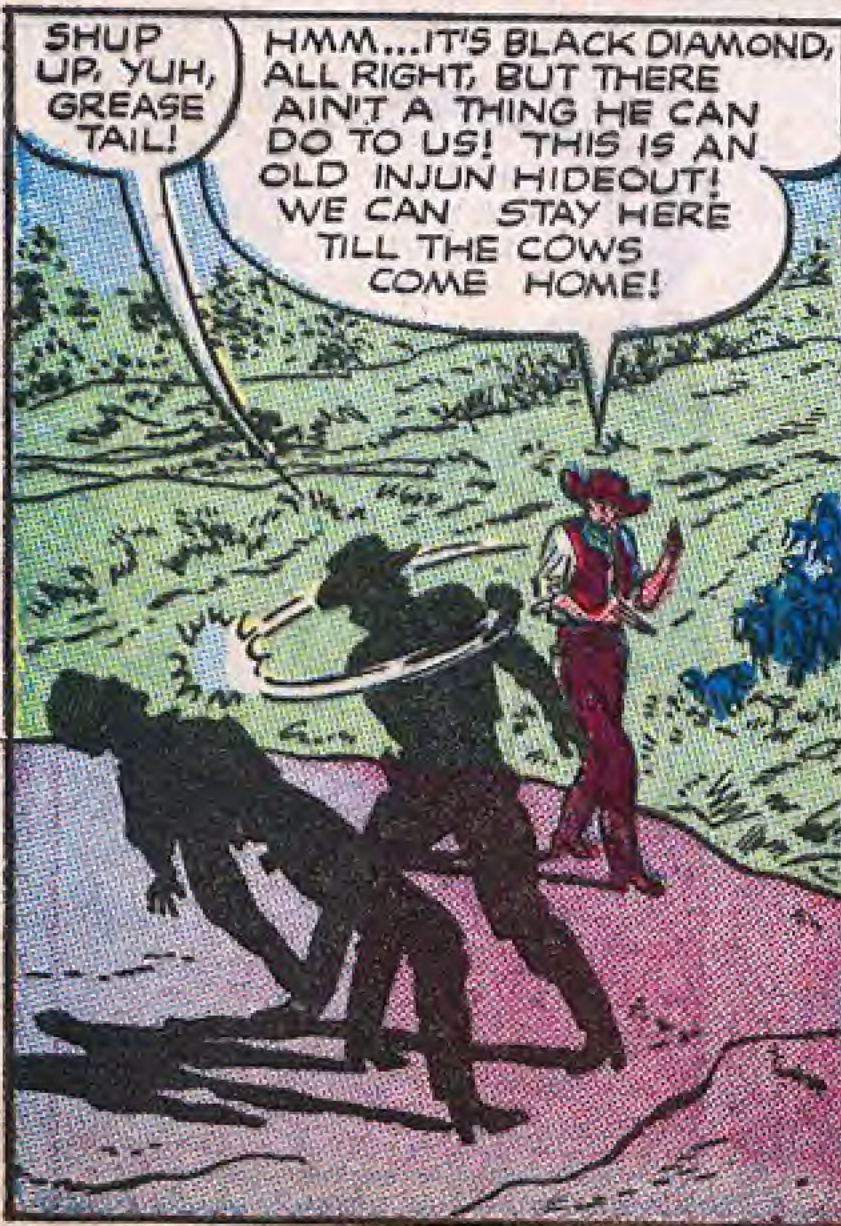
A HALF-HOUR LATER, AT THE PAYNE RANCH...







BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

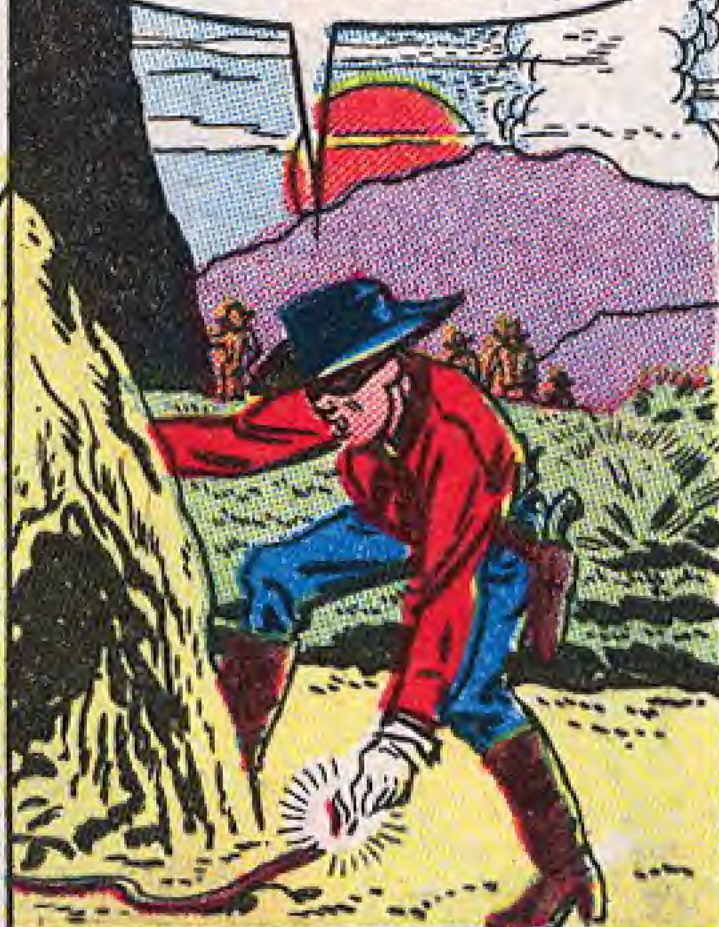
HAVING DRAWN A DETAILED DIAGRAM ON THE GROUND, THE BLACK DIAMOND EXPLAINS HIS SCHEME...

HOURS LATER, AS THE SUN CAME UP...

IF WE WORK ALL NIGHT, BY MORNING WE'LL HAVE TUNNELED UNDER THE WATER HOLE! THEY'LL BLOW SKY-HIGH WITHOUT WATER!

IT'S A SWELL IDEA! YOU HOMBRES START DRILLING! I'LL GO TO TOWN TO GET THE DYNAMITE!

OKAY, WE'RE SET TO BLOW! I PITY THE ONE WHO'S LEANING OVER FOR A DRINK OF WATER!



T..THE WATERHOLE!
T..THEY DYNAMITED THE WATER HOLE!

BAARRROOM!

THE WATER'S BEEN DRAINED OUT! WE'LL DIE OF THIRST! NOW WE GOTTA GIT OUT!

WE CAN'T TRY BY DAYLIGHT! THEY'LL SPOT US LIKE SITTING DUCKS! WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT TONIGHT! THAT MARSHAL'S GOT CUNNING! HE TURNED A FORT INTO A PRISON WITH ONE CHARGE OF DYNAMITE!



THAT NIGHT, AS DEADWOOD DAN SEEKS TO USE CANYON PASS..

PSSST...GIT BACK! SOMEBODY'S CRAWLIN' ALONG THE FLOOR OF THE PASS! CIRCLE AROUND AND GIT HIM FROM BEHIND!

SOONER OR LATER, THOSE POLECATS'LL RUSH THE RIM! BLOOD WILL BE SPILLED... OURS INCLUDED! I DIDN'T ASK BLACK DIAMOND'S PERMISSION... I DIDN'T TELL HIM WHERE I WAS GOING...



BUT I THINK IT'S WORTH TRYING TO SURPRISE THOSE YARMINTS! THEY'RE PROBABLY FIGURING WE'RE ALL WAITING OUTSIDE - THEY'LL NEVER EXPECT A...

A HALF-HOUR LATER, AS THE UNCONSCIOUS BUMPER IS BLINDFOLDED AND HIS CLOTHING EXCHANGED FOR DEADWOOD DAN'S...

SO BUMPER LOOKS LIKE YOU AN' YOU LOOK LIKE HIM! WHAT'S GOIN' TO COME OF IT?

I'LL KNOCK OFF BOTH HIM AN' THE BLACK DIAMOND! ME AND THE BLACK DIAMOND'VE BEEN INSULTIN' EACH OTHER FOR HOURS IN-VITIN' EACH OTHER IN AN' OUT OF THE PIT! NOW'S THE TIME TO OFFER THE MARSHAL A DEAL...

HEY, MARSHAL! I'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU A PROPOSITION THAT'LL SAVE BLOOD SPILLIN' ALL AROUND! A LONE DUEL-ME AGIN' YUH! IF I WIN, WE GO FREE! IF YOU GIT ME... WELL, WE ALL SURRENDER!



IT'S A DEAL, FOSTER! I'M ENTERING THE CANYON PASS NOW!

BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

MOMENTS LATER, HAVING REVIVED THE BLIND FOLDED BUMPER

YOU WANT ME TO TELL THE BLACK DIAMOND YOU'LL SURRENDER IF YOU GET A FREE TRIAL! BUT YOU'D HAVE THAT ANYWAY!

JEST MAKE SURE YOU GO THROUGH THE PASS! TAKE OFF THAT BLIND FOLD, THOUGH, AND THE DEAL IS OFF!

THIS SUCKER WON'T FIND OUT HE'S WEARING MY CLOTHES UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

SECONDS LATER, AS BUMPER STUMBLES THROUGH THE PASS...

THERE'S FOSTER NOW!... OR RATHER, HE WAS FOSTER!

YYAAAA!

BANG! BANG!

BUT AS THE BLACK DIAMOND BENDS OVER HIS BUDDY'S BODY

GASP! IT...IT'S BUMPER DRESSED IN DEADWOOD DAN'S COSTUME! B...BUT HOW DID BUMPER GET HER...OOHHH!

I GOT HIM! I KILLED THE BLACK DIAMOND! C'MON, GUYS! THE WAY IS CLEAR! TAKE IT ON TH' LAM!

BANG!

BUT LUCKILY, THE BLACK DIAMOND HAS ONLY BEEN WINGED...

THE DOUBLE-CROSSING SKUNK I COULD HAVE KILLED BUMPER! I'LL SHOW THEM NO MERCY NOW!

D...DAN! HE FOOLED US! HE AIN'T DE... EEEAAHH!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

SHORTLY AFTER...

YOU WERE LUCKY, MARSHAL, YOU ONLY GOT WINGED! BUMPER'S WOUNDED, BUT HE'LL MAKE IT ONCE HE GETS MEDICAL ATTENTION! BUT THE VARMINTS UP THERE, THEY'RE VULTURE MEAT!

LET IT BE A LESSON TO THOSE WHO WANT TO TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS - THEY'LL ALWAYS WIND UP THEMSELVES IN THE HANDS OF THE GRIM REAPER!

The End

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JUST AS I DID IN
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**I GAINED
53 LBS. OF SHAPELY
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MUSCLES!**

Which of these
2 ME'S ?

THAT 112 LB.-6 FT.

SPINDLE-**SISSY** below
ARMED WAS ME
A FEW SHORT WEEKS AGO

THIS MAY BE
YOUR LAST
CHANCE
TO GET FOR
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PICTURE
PACKED COURSES
MILLIONS HAVE
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When I enrolled I was
a skinny, sick weak-
ling. As you can see
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looked like a child...
years younger than my
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take a picture in bath-
ing trunks as I do now.
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weeks after starting
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body was the best in
the neighborhood. Now
I get respect and ad-
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fellow and girl I meet.

Roger Hirsch
NEW YORK

There's that
skinny scarecrow
ROGER. Let's
pass him by!



ROGER HIRSCH
was a 112 lb. 6 ft. WEAKLING.
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**as YOU
can be
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don't have to be
SKINNY any more
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YOU can add

6 1/2 inches to your CHEST
3 inches to each ARM
and the rest
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just as I did

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